FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 062 1 April 1987

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Mexican Official Criticizes U.S. Oil Tax Proposal [EXCELSIOR 27 Mar] A 1

BOLIVIA

Lechin Announces End of Hunger Strike 31 March [AFP] C 1
Interior Minister Rules Out State of Siege C 1
COB-Government Talks Start C 1
Budget Excuse Rejected C 2
Report on 'Kidnapping' Attempt of COB Leader C 3
Government Issues Communique on Debt Talks [EFE] C 3
Aeroflot, Cuban Airline Want To Establish Service C 3

BRAZIL

Central Bank Employees End Strike; Others Continue D 1
Official Discusses Development of Nuclear Program [FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 20 Mar] D 1
EBN Signs Agreement With Portuguese News Agency D 3

CHILE

Del Valle on Volio, Bolivian Sea Outlet, Almeyda E 1
Garcia Says 507 More Exiles Can Return E 1
Exiles Demand Authorization To Return to Country [EL MERCURIO 18 Mar] E 2
Bishop: Church in 'Moral Opposition' to Government [EFE] E 3

COLOMBIA

Minister Cepeda Says State of Siege To Continue [AFP] F 1
Barco Analyzes First 7 Months of Administration F 1
Samper Claims Oil Firms Give Cash to Rebels [EFE] F 2
Authorities Search for ELN Forces at Border F 2

ECUADOR

Fuel Shortage Leaves Country 'Semiparalyzed' [DPA] G 1
Democratic Left Nominates Presidential Candidate [AFP] G 1

PARAGUAY

Colorado Party Elects Legislative Leaders [EL DIARIO 31 Mar] H 1

PERU

Unknown Attackers Bomb APRA Headquarters in Lima J 1
Salvadoran Minister Views Peace Prospects [AFP] J 1
President Announces Discovery of Gold Mine [EFE] J 1

URUGUAY

Pope John Paul II Arrives in Montevideo 31 March K 1
UK Official 'Avoids' Falklands Discussion [AFP] K 1
Left-Wing Group Receives Foreign Financing [AFP] K 2
Radioactive Polish Milk Brought From Brazil K 2

VENEZUELA

Further on Visit by Guyana's President Hoyte L 1
Speaks at Reception L 1
Addresses Essequibo Issue L 4
Briefs: 1986 Oil Statistics Released L 4

MEXICO

Planning Secretary on Cuba Economy Meeting M 1
[EXCELSIOR 24 Mar]
Pemex Confirms Continued Cooperation With OPEC M 2
Details on Hydrocarbons Agreement With Peru M 2
[EXCELSIOR 27 Mar]
Briefs: New Governors; April Export Crude Sold M 3

PANAMA

Abadia Comments on Costa Rican Peace Plan N 1
[MATUTINO 31 Mar]
Briefs: New Ambassador to Colombia N 1

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

6 Commanders Support Chamorro as UNO Leader P 1
Central Bank President Tenders Resignation [AFP] P 1
Editorial Says Arias Neglecting Economy P 2
[LA NACION 22 Mar]

EL SALVADOR

FMLN Rebels Attack Garrison, Destroy Quarters P 3
U.S. Advisor Killed P 4
Body Flown to U.S. [AFP] P 4
Duarte To Inspect Damage P 5
Colonel Rubio on Attack P 5
Venceremos on Attack P 9
FMLN 'Communique' on Attacks During 'Operation' P 10
[Venceremos]
Estanzuelas Report [Venceremos] P 11
Relampago Battalion Report [Venceremos] P 11

GUATEMALA

President Gives Details on Visit to Nicaragua P 12
FRG President Concludes Official Visit P 13

NICARAGUA

Ortega Warns of Impending U.S. Invasion [BARRICADA 29 Mar] P 14
Foreign Trade Minister Ends Visit to USSR [BARRICADA 28 Mar] P 15
MISURA, KISAN Establish 'Sole Military Force' [DPA] P 16
PSC Leaders Prevented From Greeting Cerezo P 16

CUBA

Alarcon Complains About Denial of U.S. Visas Q 1
Forces To Remain in Angola as Long as Necessary Q 1
Radio Notes Changes in Haitian Military Q 1
Commentary Views Contra Presence in Honduras Q 2
Arias Tries To Get Support for 'Alternative' Plan Q 3
Chilean Parties Law Sparks Call for Protest Q 3
Protests, Strikes Against Chilean Regime Q 4
Castro, USSR's Victor Chebrikov Tour Havana Q 5
CEMA Meeting on Machine Building Opens in Havana Q 5
Meeting Ends Q 6
Castro Meets Vice Presidents Q 7
Castro Meets With SED Politburo Member Q 7
Further on Visit by Poland's Jozef Czyrek Q 7
Meets Raul Castro [PAP] Q 7
Meets Officials [PAP] Q 7
Yugoslavia's Orlandic Heads Delegation Q 8
Welcomed by Risquet Q 8
Begins Official Talks [TANJUG] Q 8
SWAPO President Nujoma Continues Regional Visit Q 9
Talks With Reporters Q 9
Addresses South African Acts Q 10
Grants News Conference Q 10
Further on Fifth UJC Congress, 1-4 April Q 11
Delegations Arriving Q 11
FAO Food Program Officials Visit Camaguey Province Q 11
Briefs: Oil Refinery Goals Q 11

CARIBBEAN

Caricom, EC Sign Memorandum of Understanding S 1

BAHAMAS

New Session of the House Opened by Governor S 1

GRENADA

Government Amends Controversial Business Tax S 2

HAITI

Voters Approve New Constitution 30 March S 2

SURINAME

Bouterse Announces 25 Nov General Elections	U	1
New Government To Be Installed Early April	U	1
Draft Constitution Completed, Presented	U	1
Adopted by National Assembly	U	1
Rebels Reportedly Kill Three Soldiers 25 March [Amsterdam DE VOLKSKRANT 27 Mar]	U	2
Suspect Arrested in Shooting of Militia Member	U	2
C-47 Union To Continue Talks With Government	U	3
Suralco-Trade Union Labor Talks Break Down	U	3
Third District Radio Station Opens Late March	U	3
Briefs: Ambassador to Brazil	U	3

MEXICAN OFFICIAL CRITICIZES U.S. OIL TAX PROPOSAL

PA010212 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 27 Mar 87 pp 5a, 23a

[Article by Antonio Garza Morales]

[Text] Jose Luis Alcudia, secretary of energy, mines, and parastate industry, has stated that if the United States approves a tax on oil imports, Mexico will use its weight as a member of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) to express its disagreement because it believes that taxing oil is a discriminatory commercial practice.

The official is representing Mexico at the fifth meeting of the Informal Group of Latin American and Caribbean Oil Exporting Countries being held in Caracas.

Alcudia said that Mexico, Venezuela, and Canada have already expressed through diplomatic channels their opposition to this tax, proposed by President Reagan, which would levy 11 cents on each barrel of imported crude.

Upon arrival at Caracas International Airport, the Mexican deputy secretary stated that such a tax would seriously hurt oil-producing countries, especially the Latin American ones.

Alcudia said that Mexico is participating in the Latin American forum as irrefutable proof of President de la Madrid's commitment and as part of his administration's diplomatic petroleum policy, a policy that is presently being properly applied by Alfredo del Mazo, secretary of energy, mines, and parastate industry.

Alcudia added that Mexico wants to improve the current exchange of technical information and experience among the member countries of the Informal Group of Latin American and Caribbean Oil-Exporting Countries to strengthen and direct through firm actions the attempt to achieve Latin American unity in areas where it would have clear advantages, such as the oil industry.

After these statements, Alcudia and his Latin American colleagues visited Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi, who confirmed his recognition of Mexico's efforts to stabilize the international oil market and strengthen crude oil markets.

Lusinchi told the Mexican, Ecuadoran, Venezuelan, Colombian, and Trinidadian representatives that despite its name, Informal Group, the group has a strong sense of solidarity and a constructive willingness to seek ways and solutions of full cooperation in technical matters, the transfer of technology, and the application of technological knowledge to the modern oil industry.

In closing, Lusinchi stated that Mexico, although not an OPEC member, has made the sovereign and self-determined decision to join in that organization's strategy, with good results regarding the strengthening of oil prices and stabilization of the hydrocarbons market.

LECHIN ANNOUNCES END OF HUNGER STRIKE 31 MARCH

PY312020 Paris AFP in Spanish 1947 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] La Paz, 31 Mar (AFP) -- The Bolivian Labor Confederation (COB) today agreed to suspend the hunger strike which nearly 10,000 workers have been observing for the past 13 days. This was announced by COB Executive Secretary Juan Lechin Oquendo.

In a letter addressed to the hierarchy of the Catholic Church, which has been mediating between the government and the COB, Lechin announced that the COB will suspend every coercive measure to facilitate the start of negotiations on the unions' demands.

INTERIOR MINISTER RULES OUT STATE OF SEIGE

PY010119 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] The implementation of a state of siege has been definitely ruled out. Tranquillity has returned to Bolivia. These comments were made by Interior Minister Juan Carlos Duran. Radio Panamericana learned about Duran's comments after the beginning of the negotiations between the government and the COB at the Planning and Coordination Ministry building.

Duran explained that the domestic situation has changed noticeably and that the decision by the trade unions was most appropriate.

In this regard, the following are the comments made by Juan Carlos Duran.

[Begin recording] [Duran, in progress] ...because we consider that they will lift the hunger strikes.

[Reporter] Will the government rule out the possibility of implementing a radical measure, such as a state of siege, as has been mentioned?

[Duran] Well, I believe that once a sound agreement has been reached there is no need to take any measures. [end recording]

These were the comments of Interior Minister Juan Carlos Duran, referring to the political situation in Bolivia at a time when the COB and the government have begun a reconciliation phase.

COB-Government Talks Start

PY010217 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Excerpt] In a cordial atmosphere and with a prayer to the Virgin Mary, negotiations have begun between the COB and the government at the Planning and Coordination Ministry building.

In fact, negotiations between the COB and the government started after the hunger strikes were lifted by orders of the COB. Representing the government were the foreign minister, the planning minister, the interior minister, the education minister, the mining minister, the labor minister, and the information minister.

Meanwhile, representing the COB were Walter Delgadillo, COB secretary general, Victor Lopez Arias, an FSTMB [Trade Union Federation of Bolivian Mineworkers] leader, other trade union leaders, and university officials.

The church was represented in its mediation role by Msgr Alejandro Mestre.

Thus, the COB-Government talks started in an extraordinary way with a Christian prayer. [passage omitted]

Budget Excuse Rejected

PY311511 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] After reading reports released by the Catholic Church, Lechin Oquendo said that the government has agreed to increase the salaries of workers, although at minimum percentages. According to Lechin, the government has told the church that the government could grant a salary increase and meet some of the workers' demands if negotiations begin after the lifting of the workers' hunger strikes.

He added that the salary increase promised by the government is minimal, and that all government intentions disclosed by the Catholic Church to the COB members were conveyed to the workers at the meeting held yesterday.

Then, referring to the dialogue with the government, Lechin Oquendo stated:

[Begin recording] [Lechin] The government this afternoon presented us with a number of proposals, although we informed them that most union organizations have voted to continue the hunger strikes.

[Reporter] Did the government answer say categorically that no negotiations would be held unless the hunger strikes are lifted?

[Lechin] Yes, that is the condition imposed by the executive branch. [end recording]

Lechin added that the government's concern about accelerating negotiations with the COB so that they coincide with the congressional sessions reviewing the nation's budget is not valid because the executive branch should have been responsible and presented this budget in due time.

[Begin Lechin recording] The fact is that the government is now worrying about the budget, while responsible governments present the budget proposal the previous year, that is, toward the end of the congressional sessions, in December or by the end of November.

What happens is that government members have delayed this budget proposal for 3 months, and now they are telling us that they have only a few days. There is no correct relationship between events. The government should have presented the budget last year, as done by responsible governments. The fact is that it did so 3 months late, and now it becomes meticulous, hasty, and exerts pressures, saying that there are only 2 or 3 days left. [end recording]

The COB will have to give its final answer to the government this afternoon through a report to the Catholic Church.

REPORT ON 'KIDNAPPING' ATTEMPT OF COB LEADER

PY311432 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] There has been an attempt to abduct Lechin Oquendo, leader of the COB. Last night, a red car without license plates, and presumably carrying armed individuals, blocked the entrance to Lechin's house.

It has been feared that the Interior Ministry would order his immediate detention. Lechin held a telephone conversation with Interior Minister Juan Carlos Duran, who assured him that there was no arrest warrant out for him or any intention to detain him.

When Lechin advised the minister about the suspicious car parked in front of his house, the minister reminded Lechin that he had already warned him about kidnapping attempts, but that Lechin had paid no attention to the warning.

At approximately 2300, the interior minister assured Lechin Oquendo that he will not be detained. When an Interior Ministry car arrived at Oquendo's house, the suspicious car left.

GOVERNMENT ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON DEBT TALKS

PY010127 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2135 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] La Paz, 31 Mar (EFE) -- Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal released a communique today stating that Bolivia has not as yet formalized any agreement with international commercial banks to purchase its debt.

Bolivian Central Bank President Javier Nogales a few days ago reported that Bolivia had asked a consortium of its 128 creditor banks for permission to purchase its debt on the secondary market, and that the Bank of America, the leading creditor bank, had agreed. Nogales said that Bolivia can obtain foreign funds to purchase its debt.

Bedregal today stressed that no government, neither that of the United States nor that of the FRG, has granted funds to Bolivia to purchase its debt. Bedregal added that "the funds that friendly countries may provide to purchase the debt will have to be a donation."

AEROFLOT, CUBAN AIRLINE WANT TO ESTABLISH SERVICE

PY271635 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] Civil Aeronautics Under Secretary Hugo Vilar has reported that Aeroflot is interested in establishing an airline service to Bolivia. The Cubana de Aviacion airline and a Hungarian company [not further identified] also expressed interest in establishing an airline service to Bolivia.

Vilar stated that initially these proposals must be reviewed and then meetings must be held with representatives of the airlines. He said that neither the ministry nor the government have made any decision yet.

CENTRAL BANK EMPLOYEES END STRIKE; OTHERS CONTINUE

PY010327 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 0230 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Excerpt] The strike by Bank of Brazil employees in Brasilia, Curitiba, and Rio de Janeiro has ended. The Central Bank has authorized branch offices to operate from 0900 to 2100 tomorrow.

During a meeting tonight, Bank of Brazil employees in Brasilia, Curitiba, and Rio de Janeiro decided to go back to work tomorrow. However, they rejected a proposal by the Bank of Brazil of a 30-percent salary increase immediately, plus 10 percent in September and another 10 percent in March 1988. The Bank of Brazil employees decided to suspend their strike temporarily to resume negotiations with the Bank of Brazil's executive board.

Nevertheless, employees of private banks decided to continue the strike. They met after the meeting held by Bank of Brazil employees and rejected the bankers' proposal of a 20-percent salary raise in April -- discounting the March salary readjustment -- a 10-percent increase in May, and another 10-percent in June. The superior labor court will rule on the strike tomorrow. [passage omitted]

OFFICIAL DISCUSSES DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR PROGRAM

PY252213 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 Mar 87 p A6

["Text" of interview with Rex Nazareth, president of the National Nuclear Energy Commission, by FOLHA correspondent Amercio Chaer in Rio de Janeiro "during the week of 9-14 March"]

[Text] FOLHA: What is the Brazilian nuclear program?

Nazareth: This program is intended to prepare the country technologically so it can meet its current and future needs for nuclear energy in health, industry, agriculture, and electricity. On the one hand, we try to develop our own technology -- this is the autonomous aspect of the program coordinated by the CNEN [National Nuclear Energy Commission] -- and on the other hand, we try to absorb existing technology, particularly to generate electricity. The autonomous facet of the program is aimed at forming a "pool" of know-how, including fuel cycles.

FOLHA: What does know-how in fuel cycles mean?

Nazareth: The oil crisis taught us that the country's supply of energy must be based not only on the resources it possesses but also on the mastery of the technology needed to generate that energy. Brazil is rich in uranium, but it needs to master the technology for putting it to work. The cycle that begins with the identification of uranium and goes to its extraction and final application is mastered by few countries. These few countries set the policy to guarantee this oligopoly or, at least, to slow down the participation of other countries in it. The pretext is that this mineral also has military applications.

FOLHA: But won't Brazil make its own atomic bomb?

Nazareth: Brazil has a clear position. The objective of the nuclear program is not to manufacture atomic bombs. This can be seen in the consistency of our international positions. It can also be seen in the nonbelligerent nature of the Brazilian people and in the consistency of the program in that regard.

FOLHA: Isn't a country that does not have the bomb weaker than those that do?

Nazareth: Brazil will be weak if it does not achieve technological autonomy and if its society does not rally behind the fundamental interests that support its true independence and sovereignty. Brazil will not be weak without the bomb, just as Japan, the FRG, and Canada are not weak. These countries, however, have mastered technology.

FOLHA: Why do we have a parallel nuclear program if Brazil's interests are so clear?

Nazareth: Brazil has a parallel program to ensure an autonomous and independent development suited to the need of Brazilian society, not a development molded by what other countries think Brazil should be allowed to do. We are not going to relinquish our right to technological independence, nor will we allow ourselves to be converted into a colony for lack of technology.

FOLHA: Is the parallel program intended to hide from other countries what Brazil is doing?

Nazareth: No. The program is secret only in its developmental stage. Only in secrecy can we ensure our industrial development. No industrialized country has ever transferred sensitive technology to another country. Only technology for the construction of nuclear reactors is transferred. No one passes along any successfully tested technology. This is the way to keep a country that does not have technology as an indentured and permanent customer. When Brazil signed the agreement with the FRG, the Netherlands refused to transfer the technology for enriching uranium. Even the import of enriched uranium for research purposes was blocked. This is why we have to work alone. No one gives anything away. The world is an industrial market, subject to keen competition.

FOLHA: If the Brazilian program does not have belligerent objectives, how can the large number of military personnel involved in it be explained?

Nazareth: There is no important sector of technological development in which military technicians do not participate -- either today or in the past. And this is not just true in Brazil. The fuel-alcohol program is an example; the Airspace Technological Center of the Air Force participated in it. The same thing happened in the computer and aeronautics industries. After all, there is no reason to keep highly trained technical groups away from the nuclear program, just to satisfy interests other than ours.

FOLHA: And the nuclear submarine?

Nazareth: It is only natural that the Navy, which is responsible for the security of 8,000 km of coastline, should be interested in nuclear-powered submarines -- just as any other Navy in the world would be.

At this stage, the purpose is to effectively use nuclear energy, without actually having a nuclear submarine under construction. Of course, the complete mastery of the technology should permit us to build those submarines if Brazilian society deems it necessary. That the eventual mastery of this technology can open that future possibility must not keep us from trying to acquire it. This would be like vetoing the development of the steelmaking industry just because steel is used to make cannons and tanks. To fear nuclear technology because it can lead to the manufacture of bombs would be like blocking chemical or bacteriological research because it can lead to developing devices for chemical or bacteriological warfare.

FOLHA: And the risks? Won't the determined search for progress endanger the Country's survival?

Nazareth: By beginning its nuclear program later than other countries, Brazil benefitted from the accumulated international experience in nuclear safety. So, by incorporating that experience into our autonomous development, itd will be psosible, in the next century when our nuclear development reaches an industdrial scale, to run lower risks than those posed by any other technology with which society normally coexists.

EBN SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH PORTUGUESE NEWS AGENCY

PY270142 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] The Brazilian News Agency [EBN] and the Portuguese news agency LUSA today signed an exchange and cooperation agreement during a meeting at the Justice Ministry. The agreement replaces and broadens the scope of the accord signed last year between EBN and the Portuguese news agency ANOP, which merged with another Portuguese news agency, NP, to form LUSA. USA President (Antonio Arta Lobo) discussed the new agreement, the exchange of news, the technological exchange, and the training of journalists from both agencies:

[Begin (Arta Lobo) recording in progress]...for technical reasons in the first place. We represent the will to strengthen and develop the present relations between Portugal and Brazil in information. [end recording]

EBN President Rui Lopez said the idea is to reorganize the agency to provide more complete coverage and not be restricted to domestic affairs or to covering the executive branch.

[Begin Lopez recording] We have reached an agreement with these two international agencies to receive news. The news program will be sent to our consumers. We will provide an international service to our Brazilian consumers using all international sources. [end recording]

EBN signed another agreement this week with the Soviet news agency TASS.

DEL VALLE ON VOLIO, BOLIVIAN SEA OUTLET, ALMEYDA

PY271606 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Relay from the Foreign Ministry]

[Text] Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has said that the Foreign Ministry has passed on, without delay, UN observer Fernando Volio's requests for interviews with people and organizations. He added that the organizations or individuals were free to accept or decline to meet with Volio. This was the case with the Supreme Court of Justice, whose members refused to receive the UN official.

As previously reported, the Supreme Court judges canceled the meeting with Volio, rejecting Volio's statement that the Judicial Branch was not independent from the Executive Branch.

Asked about the Supreme Court's refusal, the foreign minister replied.

[Begin recording] The Supreme Court of Justice has the [words indistinct] to accept Volio's request of meeting them. We passed on his request to meet with them. The members of this organization, which in this case is a government branch, are entitled to receive him either as a plenum or through their (?president). [end recording]

Changing the subject Del Valle said that the Bolivian Foreign Ministry can expect positive results regarding the next meeting between the Chilean and Bolivian foreign ministers in Montevideo. He added, however, that Chile will maintain its position of just listening.

In conclusion, Del Valle said that the measure adopted regarding Jose Clodomiro Almeyda Medina, who was transferred to Chile Chico town in the 11th Region, is the only alternative left and the most reasonable one to adopt, given the attitude of the Marxist political leader.

GARCIA SAYS 507 MORE EXILES CAN RETURN

PY010029 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1600 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Relay from Government House by reporter Eliana Henriquez]

[Text] Good afternoon. Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia has reported that the government has allowed 507 more exiles to return to the country.

The interior minister said that the number of people banned from entering the country has now been reduced to 764.

Nevertheless, the interior minister explained that 16 people, who were involved in drug trafficking activities, and another group of 179 people, who were held in detention in Chile after 1973 serving sentences which were commuted to exile, have not been allowed to return to the country. Garcia pointed out that their sentences have not been served yet.

The interior minister pointed out that these two groups were banned from entering the country for different reasons, and this is why they were not on the list of those allowed to return.

The minister added that the fact that the 90-day deadline set by the executive branch to solve the exiles issue expires today does not mean that the government will freeze the situation of the other exiles.

[Begin Gracia recording] The fact that we have reached 31 March does not mean that the situation of the other exiles will be frozen or blocked. By no means. Pursuant to instructions used by the president of the Republic, we will continue handling the 764 cases that are now pending. [end recording]

Asked whether these 764 individuals are considered dangerous by the government, the interior minister said that the criterion used to ban people from entering Chile is based on how dangerous they are. This is precisely what has been done over the past few months and what will continue to be done in the future, said Garcia.

Moreover, Garcia pointed out that former Congressmen Carmen Lazo and Aniceto Rodriguez are not on the list that was released today. Garcai said that Lazo and Rodriguez, like the other 764 people, are among the pending cases.

In conclusion, the Interior Ministry reasserted that the government did not ban from the country a group of Argentine singers, which was to perform at a rally that Pope John Paul II will hold with youths at the national soccer stadium. Minister Garcia said that a special visa to work in the country was the only thing that was denied.

EXILES DEMAND AUTHORIZATION TO RETURN TO COUNTRY

PY290221 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 18 Mar 87 p C9

[Text] A petition has been submitted to the Court of Appeals to allow the immediate authorization for the return to the country of Hortensia Bussi Soto, widow of former President Salvador Allende, her daughters Carmen Paz and Maria Isabel; as well as her nieces Denise Simone and Marinne Pascal Allende, and 300 other women who are forbidden to return to the country.

Included in the petition are Violeta Isabel Cerceda Parra, known as Isabel Parra; Mireya Baltra Moreno, a former deputy for the Communist Party and former labor minister; Mary Ann Beausire Alonso; Maria Julieta Campusano, former senator for the Communist Party; Maria Elena Carrera Villavicencio, former senator for the Socialist Party; Vivian Corvalan Castillo, daughter of Luis Corvalan; Veronica Denegri, mother of Rodrigo Rojas; Gladys Diaz Armijo, reporter; Carmen Lazo Carrera, former deputy for the Socialist Party; Gladys Marin Millie, former secretary general of the communist youths; Frida Modak, reporter; and Nilda and Sonia Rivera Calderon.

BISHOP: CHURCH IN 'MORAL OPPOSITION' TO GOVERNMENT

PY311727 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1540 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Santiago, 30 Mar (EFE) -- In an interview published in the newspaper FORTIN MAPOCHO, Santiago Auxiliary Bishop Msgr Jorge Hourton said today that "the church is in moral opposition to this system, which, to say the least, has so many defects." Msgr Hourton thus added his criticism to that which has been made recently of General Augusto Pinochet military regime by Bishops Carlos Camus and Tomas Gonzalez. This criticism was voiced a few days before Pope John Paul II is due to arrive for a tour of eight cities.

In his interview with FORTIN MAPOCHO, Msgr Hourton stated that the fact that the pope will meet President Pinochet "causes me no concer, because I saw the pope greet General Leopoldo Galtieri in Argentine, and shortly thereafter he fell; and it seems to me that it is a good thing for the pope to come to Chile, although it now has a government that has created so many problems to the church."

The bishop explained that the Chilean episcopate has chosen the slogan "Messenger of Life" for the pope's visit, because "life represents a great spiritual and ethical value which has been so little respected during recent years in Chile. The militarization of politics has aready taken such a large toll of victims that we are getting used to death." Msgr Hourton also expresses his hope that the pope will discuss Article 38 of the Conciliar Constitution "Guadium et Spes," because "the government officials and the official circles need this catechism lesson." The bishop adds that "if they were to listen, then all the immorality of exile, torture, and repression would be eliminated."

Elsewhere, the Bishop of Punta Arenas, the city which the pope will visit on 4 April, confirmed that he granted an interview to a L'UNITA journalist, but added that "it was a long talk, in which I said things that were private and not intended as public statements."

According to the Italian newspaper, Msgr Gonzalez, who excommunicated security personnel from his dioceses for practicing torture, had strong words for the military regime, going so far as to refer to Minister Secretary of Government Francisco Cuadra as "an obtuse youth" who "displays his faith ostentatiously, although it is empty of conviction."

The bishops' secretary general, Msgr Sergio Contreras, also criticized the Chilean Government and expressed his fear that "out of desperation for change people turn to violence."

Two days before the pope's arrival, sectors that support the military regime are conducting a campaign against the so-called "progressive sectors of the church."

The weekly NEGRO EN EL BLANCO criticized the statements of Msgr Cristian Precht, who is in charge of the liturgy for the papal ceremonies. Msgr Precht had told local journalists that the word "life" has a special meaning for ceremony at the National Stadium because this stadium is "a sign of fratricide." The same publication adds that the stage from which the pope will officiate over a ceremony for slum dwellers was designed by a "communist architect." This together with the fact that the slum dwellers will offer the pope a cup of tea and a piece of bread to symbolize their poverty, the magazine says, will turn that ceremony into "a ghastly distortion of facts."

MINISTER CEPEDA SAYS STATE OF SIEGE TO CONTINUE

PA302226 Paris AFP in Spanish 1713 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Bogota, 30 Mar (AFP) -- Colombian Government (Interior) Minister Fernando Cepeda said here today that the state of siege will continue "because the public order situation warrants it." "It is wiser to maintain that measure," he said.

Cepeda admitted Colombia is going through a difficult situation because of an upsurge in guerrilla violence (255 people have been killed in guerrilla actions from January to March 1987, according to the Army). Those same statistics indicate that the guerrillas kill an average of 90 people (soldiers, policemen, and peasants) per month. This does not include the victims of common crimes. An increase in kidnapping and extortion cases and in murders of political leaders (13 this year, including 11 communists) in various parts of the country has also been observed.

Cepeda admitted that the situation is undeniably serious. However, he declined to single out the causes of the deterioration in the public order situation, explaining that the liberal government of President Virgilio Barco will evaluate this over the next several hours. Barco met today with his governors (provincial leaders), who reviewed the domestic situation, particularly the public order situation, with military commanders. Cepeda insistently ruled out taking any measure to reestablish legal normalcy. "That is impossible, at least for the time being," he stressed.

The state of siege has predominated in Colombia for the past 40 years. It was last placed into effect on 1 May 1984, a day after the assassination of Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara in Bogota. The Patriotic Union (UP), a political group created in the wake of a truce with rebels of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in May 1984, has repeatedly asked that the state of siege be lifted. Jaime Pardo Leal, top UP leader and former presidential candidate, said the country will get back on the path of peace and reconciliation only after legal normalcy is reestablished.

"It is impossible to please them," Cepeda warned, expressing confidence that the government will successfully face up to the increase in guerrilla activity. He said that not only repressive measures but necessary social measures will be taken.

BARCO ANALYZES FIRST 7 MONTHS OF ADMINISTRATION

PA302252 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0100 GMT 29 Mar 87

[Text] President Virgilio Barco Vargas, who reaffirmed that as president he is leading the country, spoke in Cartagena about the first 7 months of his administration. Here are the president's remarks on the public order and economic situations:

[Begin recording] In a country that is progressing and advancing every day, that does not have unmanageable debt problems, and that has a government carrying out a campaign to improve the lives of the poorest sectors, each bad thing has magnified and each good thing is hidden. Why? To create a situation of fear and destabilization that is not good for the country.

For example, employment has been increasing. The factories have had great production. This shows that there is purchasing power. If you look at the 1986 balance sheets you will see they are very good. You can read them, but no one comments on them.

In the newspapers there was an entire page that showed the good performance of companies and the creation of jobs. Therefore, from that social viewpoint, we are improving. We do have problems with violence. The country sometimes experiences waves of violence, but they are isolated and grave actions. The government is concerned about this and is fighting against it, but this is no different from the things we inherited from the past. [end recording]

SAMPER CLAIMS OIL COMPANIES GIVE CASH TO REBELS

PA300036 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0357 GMT 28 Mar 87

[Text] Bogota, 27 Mar (EFE) -- Ernesto Samper Pizano, president of Colombia's ruling Liberal Party, today said oil companies that operate in Colombia have given $32 million to the Colombian guerrilla movement as a "security contribution." Samper said that according to reports he has received, the oil companies in Arauca Department have paid that money to "the enemies of democracy" during the last new years, instead of paying it to the state. "What can we expect if those companies contribute to the rebel groups?" Samper wondered.

According to reports obtained by EFE, the National Liberation Army (ELN) is the organization that has benefited the most from that "security contribution." According to those reports, the contribution of the oil companies not only included cash but also medical care and transportation facilities. In exchange for that "contribution," the ELN "protects" those companies from possible attacks by other armed groups or common criminals. The managers of the oil companies have repeatedly stated that the payment of that "guerrilla tax" is part of a "well-being policy" to allow production without problems. The main oil companies that operate in Colombia are the multinationals Occidental Petroleum Company and Shell. They work under contract with the state Colombian Petroleum Enterprise (ECOPETROL).

The Liberal Party National Directorate met on 24 March with top Army officials to obtain information regarding the country's situation of violence and agreed to request that the government increase the Armed Forces budget.

AUTHORITIES SEARCH FOR ELN FORCES AT BORDER

PA301540 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 28 Mar 87

[Text] Arauca -- Authorities at the border area are searching for a guerrilla group of the National Liberation Army, ELN, that attacked Venezuelan Navy units along Venezuela's Arauca River while the Navy was guarding dredges in the Los Angelitos area. It was revealed that Colombian and Venezuelan military and police units will be combing border areas by sea and ground this weekend.

As the Supernews network reported, six insurgents of the outlawed ELN ambushed the Venezuelan sailors in an attempt to dynamite dredges that channel international waters of the Arauca River in Venezuelan territory. Their plan was foiled by the sailors vigorous defense after a 4-hour clash that left no dead or wounded on either side.

FUEL SHORTAGE LEAVES COUNTRY 'SEMIPARALYZED'

PA312005 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1852 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Quito, 31 Mar (DPA) -- Ecuador was left semiparalyzed today with vehicular traffic reduced to minimum levels because of an acute fuel shortage which is the result of the 5 March earthquake that destroyed a large part of the energy infrastructure and forced the suspension of petroleum production.

Thousands of people walking, while cars waited in lines up to 15 blocks long in front of gasoline stations, were the unprecedented sight at noon today in a petroleum exporting country, an OPEC member since 1973, one which for a long time boasted about having the cheapest gasoline in the world at less than $0.10 a gallon.

Public transportation disappeared on Monday afternoon despite the insistent official denials of the rumors about an alleged suspension of fuel distribution. "All the deliveries are taken place regularly, but at slightly lower than normal levels," the Ecuadoran State Petroleum Corporation, which holds the fuel marketing monopoly, reiterated today.

The corporation blamed the fuel shortage on hoarding "caused by groundless panic." The fuel prices were increased up to 80 percent on 14 March, leading to massive protests from the trade union sectors which accused the government of having "ignobly used the tragedy to solve its fiscal deficit."

The repair of the oil pipeline, through which the crude petroleum is transported from the fields in the Amazon region to the coast where it is refined, will take approximately 150 days. Nevertheless, shipments are already arriving in the country from Venezuela's loan of 50,000 barrels a day "while the emergency lasts." The repair of the pipeline and its pumping stations will cost $96.6 million, according to a mission of the World Bank which will loan $50 million. [passage omitted]

DEMOCRATIC LEFT NOMINATES PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

PA312126 Paris AFP in Spanish 2204 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Quito, 30 Mar (AFP) -- Rodrigo Borja Cevallos, 51 years old, became one of the strongest presidential candidates for the January general elections after obtaining the nomination in internal elections of the Democratic Left (ID) yesterday.

For the first time in Ecuador, yesterday a political party held internal elections to choose its presidential candidate. The elections were held in 4 of the 20 provinces which comprise approximately 60 percent of the national population.

Raul Baca Carbo, 55 years old, the other contender, admitted his defeat last night and ruled out a possible split in his party. Borja later asked him to head his campaign.

The winner of the election in which approximately 160,000 voters, almost half the party members, participated, called for party unity to enable the ID to "reach power." He said that his victory in 1988 will be overwhelming and that "a runoff will not be necessary." According to the Ecuadoran Constitution, the president must win an absolute majority. If no candidate obtains it, a runoff must be held.

COLORADO PARTY ELECTS LEGISLATIVE LEADERS

PY311912 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 31 Mar 87 p 8

[Excerpt] Luis Martinez Miltos is virtually the new president of the Chamber of Deputies. Martinez Miltos' candidacy and that of his running mates, Samaniego and Chiola, will be officially proposed at the congressional preparatory session which the Colorado Party bloc will hold today. The decision was adopted by the Colorado Party leadership in the Chamber of Deputies. The other list which was supposed to have been elected, that made up of Stanley, Pena, and Saul Gonzalez, did not present its candidacy. It was Saul Gonzalez himself who presented the names of the three new party leaders during a meeting that was open to the press.

Luis Martinez Miltos will be officially presented today by the Colorado Party bloc as president of the Chamber of Deputies, thus confirming reports which have been circulating for the past week. His candidacy is supported by 32 deputies. The candidacies of Marcial Samaniego, who will be first vice president; and Martin Chiola, who will be second vice president and also Colorado Party bloc leader, will be officially proposed today.

The Colorado Party bloc in the Chamber of Deputies held a meeting at the Chamber of Deputies Session Hall. The meeting was chaired by Ruben Stanley in his capacity as bloc leader. Deputy Saul Gonzalez, who according to reports was to have been a member of the list, headed by Stanley, which was supposed to have opposed Martinez Miltos, Samaniego and Chiola, but it was he who proposed Miltos, Samaniego, and Chiola as bloc leaders in the Chamber of Deputies. There was full consensus among those attending Colorado Party members.

Present at the meeting were 32 of the 40 deputies who make up the Colorado Party bloc. A series of meetings were held throughout the past week to select the party bloc leaders and from the beginning the list headed by Martinez Miltos had the party's approval. In addition, the highest Colorado Party authority favored the ticket headed by Martinez Miltos.

Speaking in favor of the candidacies of Martinez Miltos, Samaniego and Chiola, Saul Gonzalez said there was "an absolute majority endorsng them." He also thanked Stanley and Pena for "apparently" pulling out of the race. Stanley said, "We cannot continue to portray an image of disagreement within the party to the public." He also mentioned the need to achieve "cohesion" within the Colorado Party bloc.

Moreover, Pedro Hugo Pena said "It is important to reassert that the best friend of a Colorado Party member is another Colorado Party member."

Pena also stressed the need to achieve cohesion and requested authorization to address the preparatory meeting scheduled for 31 March. He added "I believe this issue has been exaggerated a bit, and that it has received too much attention."

Luis Martinez Miltos said the present decision "has strengthened the party" and he also expressed his gratitude for his appointment. He added: "We Colorado Party members are together. We have shown that party interests have been placed above personal interests." Marcial Samaniego and Martin Chiola also delivered speeches. Chiola paid tribute to Ruben Stanley. He also reasserted that "overall party interests have prevailed." [passage omitted]

UNKNOWN ATTACKERS BOMB APRA HEADQUARTERS IN LIMA

PY311357 Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1300 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Unknown persons hurled a dynamite charge at the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance [APRA] headquarters located on Alfonso Ugarte Avenue in Lima. According to initial information available at this station, the bomb was hurled from a car that was speeding down the avenue. When the vehicle approached the APRA building, it slowed down and the occupants hurled the bomb. Although the facade of the building was damaged to some extent, no casualties have been reported. After the attack, the police car that usually patrols the building pursued the attackers' vehicle, but so far it is not known whether or not it has been captured.

SALVADORAN MINISTER VIEWS PEACE PROSPECTS

PY281532 Paris AFP in Spanish 2249 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] Lima, 24 Mar (AFP) -- Salvadoran Communications Minister Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes today said in Lima that he is pessimistic that a peace settlement will soon be reached in Central America. He explained himself by pointing out the interference by foreign governments and rebel groups and the serious world economic crisis.

These are negative influences on the pursuit for reestablishing peace in the region, he said, also placing blame on the internal struggles of the region's political parties.

However, he added, everything is possible in politics and we should not be surprised if something happens and peace is established in the region.

Rey Prendes arrived in Lima to attend the seventh assembly of the Official Information Systems Activity (ASIN), which is an agreement among official Third World news agencies. The 2-day meeting will open tomorrow in this capital.

The Salvadoran minister said that he will only be an observer because his ministry was only created recently and this will be a new experience for him.

PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES DISCOVERY OF GOLD MINE

PY301238 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1904 GMT 28 Mar 87

[Text] President Alan Garcia announced today the discovery of a rich gold field near the Condor Mountain Range. This range marks the border with Ecuador.

Garcia said that according to surveys made by the Energy and Mines Ministry, there is at least 100,000 kg of gold deposits, worth $1.3 billion, in the area of the Chinchipe, Santiago and Cenepa Rivers.

Garcia added that there is a concentration of 16 grams of gold for each metric ton of gravel, which is a much higher concentration than at the gold deposits of Madre de Dios Department, which borders on Brazil.

In Madre de Dios the concentration is 3 grams of gold for each cubic meter of gravel.

POPE JOHN PAUL II ARRIVES IN MONTEVIDEO 31 MARCH

PY312257 [Editorial Report] Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish at 2054 GMT on 31 March carries a live relay from Carrasco Airport in Montevideo of the arrival of Pope John Paul II. The pope is greeted by President Julio Maria Sanguinetti, Vice President Enrique Tarigo, and other government officials.

President Saguinetti welcomes the pope saying that Uruguay is the land of freedom, and that Uruguayans are happy to receive the pope, a man who is striving for peace.

Pope John Paul II praises Uruguay's contributions to peace by proposing to mediate in the 1978 dispute between Chile and Argentina. He also praises Uruguay's efforts in education and says that the dignity of human rights is being observed in the country. He adds: "Throughout the world, the Catholic Church seeks to promote peace with justice and respect, and to protect legitimate rights, especially those of the weak and the needy."

Pope John Paul II then greets Uruguayan officials including Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias and Interior Minister Antonio Marchesano. The pope then departs the airport as the crowd cheers and chants.

UK OFFICIAL 'AVOIDS' FALKLANDS DISCUSSION

PY252249 Paris AFP in Spanish 0453 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Montevideo, 24 Mar (AFP) -- According to what Uruguayan congressional sources said today, a high-ranking British Government official has avoided participating in a discussion in Uruguay of the Argentine-British dispute over sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands.

The British official, David Gilmore, director general of the British Department of American, Asian, and Pacific Region Affairs [title as received], met on 23 March with Uruguayan legislators to discuss issues concerning foreign debt problems, Central America, and other subjects. At the end of the meeting, Roberto Asiain, chairman of the Uruguayan Chamber of Deputies' International Affairs Commission, expressed his personal concern over the situation caused by the UK decision to decree an exclusion zone around the Malvinas Islands.

Asiain, who belongs to the ruling Colorado Party (Liberal), said he hopes that the South Atlantic will continue to be a peaceful area. He proposed that Argentina and the United Kingdom begin formal negotiations at the government level and include the sovereignty issue as the first issue on the agenda.

Gilmore replied only that at the last United Nations General Assembly, the United Kingdom voted for a resolution that was sponsored by Brazil which proposed declaring the South Atlantic a peace zone.

Uruguayan legislative sources said the British official's reply to Asiain's proposals was not satisfactory, and they added that Gilmore merely avoided the main issue.

LEFT-WING GROUP RECEIVES FOREIGN FINANCING

PY281636 Paris AFP in Spanish 2113 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Montevideo, 26 Mar (AFP) -- Companies established in Europe and Latin America are supplying funds to the 26 March Movement (26M), an Uruguayan leftist movement made up of former Tupamaro [urban guerrilla organization operating in Uruguay in the 1970's] guerrillas, Jose Berna, a member of the 26M Executive Board, announced today in Montevideo.

Berna said that a number of 26M members remain abroad, performing activities that permit us to meet part of our expenses while the rest of our funds are raised in Uruguay through work performed by 26M militants.

The 26M leader stated that the 26M Movement owns many things, from small news stands to import companies, including restaurants and supermarkets, in France, Italy, and Sweden, as well as in two or three Latin American countries.

Berna admitted that the 26M work concerning finances is very special, but he made it clear that the operation of those companies abroad is a pride for the 26M Movement and is the result of a huge sacrifice that has been made over the past 8 years.

The 26M Movement operated in the early 1970's as the political branch of the urban guerrillas. However, after the advent of the constitutional government in 1985, the 26M Movement split from the National Liberation Movement -- Tupamaros faction (MLN-T), which currently is legally recognized.

In addition, Berna announced that the 26M, of which he is an Executive Board member, does not consider itself included within the spectrum of the leftwingers who advocate violence.

RADIOACTIVE POLISH MILK BROUGHT FROM BRAZIL

PY271428 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 0930 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Authorities have recently detected the presence of a Polish milk called (Leko) which has been contaminated by radiation from the Chernobyl nuclear plant in the Soviet Union.

This powdered milk has entered the Uruguayan market illegally from Brazil which imported large quantities of milk from Poland. However, after thoroughly analyzing the product, it was determined that the milk had high levels of radioactivity; levels harmful to human health.

After discovering the presence of this contaminated milk in our country, health authorities doubled controls and adopted measures to discover those responsible for bringing it into Uruguay.

The people should be warned about the lethal consequences of consuming this product which is sold in several stores and markets. It is believed that large quantities of this product have been brought into the country.

It must be recalled that Brazil bought thousands of tons of this milk from Poland, so, therefore, it is believed that large amounts may have been brought to Uruguay.

FURTHER ON VISIT BY GUYANA'S PRESIDENT HOYTE

Speaks at Reception

PA271433 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0211 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Speech by Guyanese President Hugh Desmond Hoyte at reception in his honor at the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry in Caracas -- live, in English with superimposed Spanish translation]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Within the Latin American and Caribbean region, Venezuela and Guyana -- each in its own way -- are active participants in what will be a very clear march toward rejecting foreign interference aimed at maintaining and reinstalling domination and control, and toward reaffirming the regional peoples' right to determine their own political, economic, and social destiny.

One side of this is the increased awareness in this region, our joint interests, and our determination and actions to find our own solutions for our problems. This new affirmation is extremely important for our region, whose nations have suffered for a considerable time the negative effects of disparity between countries. Its importance, however, goes beyond the geographical limits of Latin American and the Caribbean. This affirmation, which is applicable to all countries of the world, actively fosters the idea of an international order based on equity and justice; it stresses the need to end everywhere the historical conflict between the exploiters, who form the minority; and the exploited, who form the majority.

This emerging manifestation in Latin American and the Caribbean (?was evident) only 2 weeks ago when the Nonaligned Movement's foreign relations ministers met in Georgetown to attend the special meeting convened to assess the prevailing situation in Latin America and the Caribbean. The fact that Venezuela, a country that acted as observer during the Nonaligned Movement' meeting, was represented by none other than its distinguished foreign minister was the source of great satisfaction. The ministers took special notice of this emerging posture in Latin American and the Caribbean. Thus, this new effort is most forcibly expressed in the idea advanced by the Contadora and the Support Groups. The effort made by the Contadora and the Support Groups gets progressively stronger in the context of a crisis in Central America and the Caribbean.

Tonight, Mr President, I pay tribute to you because of Venezuela's positive role in the Contadora Group. I am sure that as the group carries out its work, the situation sometimes appears difficult and final victory uncertain. Let us remember, however, Simon Bolivar's inspiration and live according to it. He drafted the Jamaica Document while confronting similar difficulties. We should not get discouraged because success has been partial. Our support for Contadora should be no less firm. The process must triumph; we must contribute toward success. The work of Contadora is invaluable, among other reasons, because of the outlook of Central American reality, which gives a clear picture of the economic, political, and social factors that give rise to the problems and conflicts of the situation. Speaking more broadly, the economic evils of Latin American and the Caribbean are potentially dangerous. Political and social disturbances could be unleashed. This danger is more marked in the field of the foreign debt. Hence, the need to strengthen and maintain economic independence.

Foreign debt affects the states of this region in varying degrees. The specific details of the way in which the problem is dealt with could be different in each case. The current situation is explosive and unpredictable. The solution will depend on the continual progress of developing countries.

As developing countries, it should be very interesting for us to work jointly to achieve this result. Apparently, and according to the latest events in the region, there will be qualitative changes in the relations between debtors and creditors. These changes will take into consideration the interest of the former.

The struggle for economic independence also compels Latin American and Caribbean states to be vigilant and firm in their posture regarding the increased protectionism practiced by developed countries. This protectionism makes us less able to generate sufficient revenue for our development. Simultaneously, Mr President, although the problems related to food and energy do not occur only in our region, they require our states to pay attention to them because these matters are of vital importance to strengthen our economies and consolidate our economic independence. We must increase our efforts to implement reliable support systems aimed at expanding agricultural production and drafting assistance programs to ensure food for the millions of people in our region, particularly those living in desperate need in rural areas and urban slums.

All of our peoples are fundamentally entitled to live with dignity, free from hunger, and with their self-respect enhanced by their participation in the development processes of their respective countries. Consequently, I think all of us must firmly support proposals such as those contemplated (?in the past) to strengthen the region's food security.

Energy cooperation, which has been recently developed between our two countries, has been highly beneficial for Guyana. I would like to express to you, Mr President, and to the Venezuelan Government the gratitude of the Guyanese people and government. A clear consensus has emerged in the Latin American and Caribbean region on the need to conserve oil and -- as a corollary to this -- on the need to develop alternative energy sources, especially of a renewable nature. Therefore our states should have a clear policy on the promotion and strengthening of practical cooperation in this field. OLADE is the logical and suitable organization within which our region's states can cooperate in the development of alternative and renewable energy sources. Venezuela's record regarding the promotion of energy development in Latin American and the Caribbean is positive. In this great country, blessed by nature with an abundance of hydrocarbon potential, the recent inauguration of the Guri Dam stands out among other things as a monument to your commitment to the development of alternative, renewable energy sources. Allow me, Mr President, to take this opportunity to congratulate you for this impressive achievement that I hope to see for myself within the next 48 hours.

Mr President, even concentrating our attention on the energy situation as aid to development, we cannot but recall with anguish the manner in which the energy resources of an increasing number of our people are being dissipated in the increasing and improper use of drugs and the increase of unlawful drug traffic. This evil is one that should receive our attention in a systematic, earnest, and resolute manner, because in addition to the loss of precious lives, that evil undermines the very basis of our society. The drug culture has also created vast and powerful networks of criminal activities, both at domestic and international levels. Not only do they create additional burdens for our finance ministries, but they also threaten the stability of the states. The agreement, which we intend to sign, Mr President, and which is linked to the prevention and control of the consumption and illegal trafficking of drugs and psychotropic substances, represents a positive step made by our two countries toward the struggle against that threat. Guyana stands ready to cooperate with other countries as well.

However, Mr President, our inevitable goal continues to be an overall peaceful, safe regime.

In fact, that the regime would create the most suitable climate for the development and consolidation of our political and economic independence. It offers the best possibilities for success for our ambitious development programs. I know that Guyana and Venezuela share a vocation for peace and security not only in Latin American and the Caribbean, but also throughout the world.

Mr President, there is widespread concern regarding the terrible arms race pursued by the world superpowers. There is concern about the increase of nuclear weapons in the arsenals of each of the super powers and refinement of their capacity to kill. Each step forward in the development of the spiralling arms race draws humanity nearer to the danger of nuclear annihilation. We are all in danger, regardless of whether we are states blessed with nuclear capacity or not. All countries should have a persistent interest in a prompt end to this so evidently dangerous race, because it threatens the survival of mankind. Consequently we cannot be silent. We must struggle until we are certain that the threatening catastrophe has ended and all of humanity can confidently look forward to a safe future in a peaceful, fair, and inhabitable world. [passage omitted]

Regardless of where they exist, conflicts can affect our region's peace and security. It is not possible to isolate ourselves from the effects caused by tensions and problems that appear in other parts of the world. Mr President, I am sure that we can help to mitigate that impact. For example, we can make the Caribbean area respected as a peaceful zone. However, the sense of security and confidence that our region seeks and needs must come from this region. It will not appear by accident, but it will come from conscious policies and specific programs of active cooperation and relations among our area countries. For these reasons we give great importance to the works we develop in Caricom and SELA, the seat of which is in Caracas. In the case of Venezuela, in addition to the fact that we are neighbors, we also share common positions regarding important matters.

Therefore Mr President, my visit here is a confirmation from Guyana of its will to continue on this path. This relationship of understanding and cooperation between our countries is not only a historical and geographical question, it is also fundamental. It is a relationship that agrees with the development of harmonious relations with all our neighbors. In the case of Venezuela, in addition to being neighbors, we also share common positions regarding the agenda of the international community. We work jointly, fruitfully, and very closely at the United Nations, at SELA, as well as in other regional and international organizations.

Mr President, I fully trust that our conversations here and the agreements that will be signed on this occasion will make my visit standout as a milestone and a point of reference in the development of the relations between our two countries. I am convinced that our people will come closer together in understanding and friendship and will together work with efficiency to contribute to the progress and prosperity of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Mr President, the experience of colonialism and foreign domination that we all share in various ways and at different historical times have bequeathed our Latin American and Caribbean regions a legacy of fragmentation and division. However, there is more than that. That experience has also left us with some areas of obscurity and many contradictions in our relationships. It must be our goal to continue dialogue and cooperation to illiminate those areas of obscurity and to overcome contradictions. This proposal, which I respectfully make, is a goal that eminently deserves its attainment. I am convinced that if there is the necessary political will, to which I am fully committed, the attainment of that goal is within our reach.

In any case Mr President, regardless of our past disagreements, what really eliminates disputes is our common humanitarianism, our common positions as neighbors, and our common status as members of the Third World that still shows the scars of centuries of unequal relations. For me this similarity is enough to proclaim an imperative that tells Guyana and Venezuela that the good neighbor policy, mutual support, and enduring peace and friendship is the only possible path we can follow.

We are members of a great geographical region rich in enormous human and natural resources with a potential to transform this region into an influential, economic, and political force in the world. I would like to believe that every single effort we are making to develop regional cooperation and unity represents a conscious determination to develop all that potential within the framework of Bolivar's vision of a regional union based on our common search of dignity, democracy, and development in our region. It seems that within that ideal framework there is no problem that we cannot resolve, no development goal that we cannot attain, and no goal to which we cannot aspire. [passage omitted]

Addresses Essequibo Issue

PA271342 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Guyana has adopted a flexible position in response to Venezuela's claim to the Essequibo region. Guyanese President Desmond Hoyte, who is visiting Venezuela, clearly stated this principle during an interview today by reporter Nelson Bucaranda on his morning program, "In Confidence." President Hoyte also said that success in solving this problem will depend on the acceptance of the mechanisms that are adopted. [passage omitted]

BRIEFS

1986 OIL STATISTICS RELEASED -- Energy and Mines Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti and Venezuelan Petroleum Inc. authorities have presented the 1986 report on the industry, the results of which are very acceptable despite the fluctuations on the international crude market and the difficult times the sector faced in 1986. In 1986, the average price of petroleum was $13.90 per barrel, with daily sales of 1,508,000 barrels of crude, which brought the country almost $8 billion in foreign exchange, approximately 22.490 billion Bolivars less than budgeted for that year. On the domestic market, consumption rose to 342,000 barrels of crude daily, an increase over the 323,000 barrels in 1985. The country maintained almost the same level of gasoline consumption as in 1985. [Summary] [Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Mar 87 PA]

PLANNING SECRETARY ON CUBA ECONOMY MEETING

PA280321 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 24 Mar 87 pp 1a, 15a

[Excerpts] Havana, 23 Mar -- Carlos Salinas de Gortari, secretary of planning and budget, has said that in regard to the debt, it is preferrable to negotiate than to create a confrontation in the search for a solution that would bring economic development to the area and regional cooperation and unity. The issue occupies a prominent place in the international economic debate, and thus its discussion must be increasingly linked to the problems of currency, finances, and trade. The secretary made these statements at the plenary meeting of the sixth conference of ministers and planning leaders of Latin America and the Caribbean, who agreed with his position.

An appropriate solution to the problem must necessarily be linked to these factors, and that is why Mexico "thus far has found more benefits in negotiation than in confrontation."

With Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, Norberto Gonzalez, secretary general of ECLA, and other officials and ministers of countries in the region present, Salinas de Gortari reaffirmed the proposals made by President de la Madrid at an ECLA meeting in Mexico. What is involved are 10 proposals that "constitute a profound effort of reflection and analysis and an important option for countries in the region."

The proposals, which were approved by consensus during the ECLA meeting, were presented by Salinas de Gortari and accepted in this plenary meeting:

Coresponsibility of the Debt [subhead]

1. Return to economic growth and introduce structural changes to reestablish lasting stability and upgrade social welfare in the region.

2. In the short-run, achieve price stability and establish a financial system with the lowest cost possible in the area of economic activity.

3. Integrate debt, financing, and trade in the medium-run.

4. Promote an appropriate environment in the world economy which allows sustained growth in the regional economy.

5. Adjust the requirements, resources, and conditional formulas of multilateral financial organizations to the new conditions of the world economy and the new reality in Latin America and the Caribbean.

6. Promote full acceptance by creditor banks of their coresponsibility as creators and resolvers of the debt problem.

7. Redouble efforts in the modernization of and in structural changes of our production apparatus to enable us to efficiently adopt new industrial innovations and new trade tendencies in the world economy.

8. Continue reviewing the size, forms of intervention, and productivity levels of the public sector to free resources, decentralize decisions, and in turn, guarantee the fundamental commitments of the state.

9. Promote economic integration among Latin American and Caribbean countries.

10. Strengthen Latin American institutions. [passage omitted]

Finally, the Mexican secretary said that he hopes that most planning systems in Latin America and the Caribbean will foster cooperation and seek ways to achieve a consensus.

PEMEX CONFIRMS CONTINUED COOPERATION WITH OPEC

FL312226 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0032 GMT 28 Mar 87

[Text] Mexico City, 27 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Pemex information manager Guillermo Mora Tavares, stated today that Mexico is not divided and has not changed its position on its OPEC commitments.

On behalf of Pemex Director Francisco Rojas, the official announced that Mexico will continue to be a responsible and reliable oil supplier for its clients in various parts of the world.

He stressed that Mexico will continue to cooperate with OPEC in strengthening the oil market as it was agreed upon during the meeting held last January in this capital between Energy Secretary Alfredo del Mazo, and the OPEC envoy, his Venezuelan counterpart Arturo Hernandez Guisanti.

At that time, the Mexican Government announced it would reduce its export quota to 1.320 billion barrels a day. Mexico continues to honor this commitment.

The spokesman acknowledged that it was impossible to change the export volume in January. Some 1.325 billion barrels a day were sold during this month. In February, exports were maintained at 1.323 billion barrels and a maximum of 1.324 billion barrels a day are expected to be sold in March.

DETAILS ON HYDROCARBONS AGREEMENT WITH PERU

PA010012 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 27 Mar 87 pp 5a, 35a

[By Antonio Garza Morales]

[Text] It was announced during the signing of a hydrocarbons cooperation program concluded by Presidents Miguel de la Madrid and Alan Garcia that Mexico will participate in the construction of oil refinery plants, off-shore drilling, construction of a 600-km gas pipeline, refinery expansions, and other projects in Peru.

Pemex General Director Francisco Rojas and Petroperu [State Petroleum Agency] President Jaysuno Abramovich signed the document yesterday.

The two oil enterprises agreed that conditions are adequate for joint actions in the following areas: technical advice and assistance, personnel training, expansion of Peruvian supplies, promotion of export of capital goods and services, and construction projects.

Peru recently discovered important hydrocarbon deposits that will require the construction of processing plants and the 600-km long Aguaytia-Pucallpa gas pipeline; this represents an approximate investment of $1 billion.

Other projects include the enlargement of the Talara refinery, a secondary project in that zone, and a new pier for the port of Talara.

Pemex and the Mexican Oil Institute let it be known that they have experience which can be particularly useful for Petroperu and its affiliate Offshore Petroleum Company [Petromar] in their offshore oil drilling activities, exploitation and processing of gas, secondary recovery activities, and refining of hydrocarbons.

Regarding promoting exports of capital goods, industrial materials and services, the two countries will basically promote exports of capital goods of both types as a logical consequence of the programs and actions carried out by Pemex and the Peruvian oil companies to develop national resources.

Referring to advisory and technical assistance activities, reciprocal programs will be established for technological cooperation, including services and training of personnel.

Peru's oil development makes it necessary to build large-scale works, in which Mexico will participate to the advantage of the two countries, which will include the participation of Pemex, the Mexican Oil Institute, as well as engineering, construction, and project management firms.

Likewise, the document states that Pemex and Petroperu have agreed to advocate among the governments and business sectors in the two countries the resolution of obstacles which might arise or prevent the implementation of actions stated in the program which the two enterprises have signed.

BRIEFS

NEW GOVERNORS -- Mexico City, 29 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Adolfo Lugo Verduzco, governor-elect of Hidalgo; Victor Manuel Liceaga Ruibal, governor-elect of Baja California Sur; and Miguel Borge Martin, governor-elect of Quintana Roo; will take office on 1 and 5 April. [Summary] [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2039 GMT 29 Mar 87 FL]

APRIL EXPORT CRUDE SOLD -- Mexico City, 27 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Pemex has announced that Mexico has already sold its April quota of crude for export. The quota of crude for export has been fixed at 1.320 million barrels a day plus 50,000 barrels of oil by-products. During the first 3 months of the year, the average price of the Mexican crude was reported at $15.25 a barrel, and Mexico sold $1.985 billion in crude and by-products. [Summary] [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2146 GMT 27 Mar 87 FL]

ABADIA COMMENTS ON COSTA RICAN PEACE PLAN

PA312144 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 31 Mar 87 pp 1, 14

[By Roberto R. Rodriguez]

[Text] Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia Arias has said that it would be very difficult for Panama to support a peace plan for Central America drafted outside the framework of the Contadora Group.

Abadia said that any peace-seeking effort deserves serious consideration, but it would "be difficult" for Panama to support a peace plan drafted outside the framework of the Contadora Group.

Foreign Minister Abadia referred to a peace plan recently presented by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias calling for an end to aid "for the Sandinist counterrevolution from the United States."

The leader of Panamanian diplomacy said that if the aim is to "replace" the Contadora Group's peace-seeking effort, it would be difficult for Panama to support a position contrary to 4 years of efforts carried out by various governments and the overwhelming worldwide support received by the Contadora Group.

Last week, Philip Habib, U.S. special envoy to Central America, met with President Eric Delvalle not only to voice U.S. support for the Costa Rican president's plan, but also to say that such plan "is a viable means to achieve peace in Central America."

However, members of the Contadora Group and Support Group (Brazil, Argentina, Peru, and Uruguay) have maintained that there will be no lasting peace in Central America as long as those who are promoting it exclude some of the five countries in the area. Therefore, the principle that any effort must be based on a consensus of area governments becomes more important.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADOR TO COLOMBIA -- The Executive Branch has named Raul Esteban Roger Ruiz as Panama's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Colombia. [Summary] [Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 26 Mar 87 p 16 PA]

COSTA RICA

6 COMMANDERS SUPPORT CHAMORRO AS UNO LEADER

PA271410 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0114 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] San Jose, 25 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Six commanders who disavowed Eden Pastora 10 months ago today stated their support for Pedro Joaquin Chamorro as anti-Sandinist leader. The guerrilla chiefs stated that Chamorro "is our hope to strengthen the democratic struggle in general," particularly on the Nicaraguan southern front.

Chamorro replaced Adolfo Calero as leader of the Nicaraguan Opposition Unity (UNO), a position he shares with Alfonso Robelo and previously shared with Arturo Cruz.

The rebels, members of the command staff of Eden Pastora's former Nicaraguan Revolutionary Democratic Alliance, joined UNO in June 1986 and withdrew on 24 January 1987 saying they had been "abandoned."

In addition to stating their support for Chamorro the six admitted they are presently receiving weapons, ammunition, food, and medicine directly on the battle fields.

In a communique, "Leonel," the commander of the group, stated the group's agreement with the project of unifying the Nicaraguan resistance, and offered its forces to form one rebel army with soldiers from all the war fronts.

Pedro Joaquin Chamorro also has the approval of General Enrique Bermudez, commander in chief of the FDN. The FDN is the most important "contra" armed group and receives the most U.S. aid.

CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT TENDERS RESIGNATION

PA270457 Paris AFP in Spanish 1818 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] San Jose, 26 Mar (AFP) -- Official media reported that Eduardo Lizano, president of the Central Bank of Costa Rica, resigned his post today for alleged disagreements with President Oscar Arias over economic and fiscal policies. Lizano presented his resignation to Arias, who asked the official to remain in the post until May.

Lizano has been in charge of Costa Rica's negotiations with the IMF for the last 2 years, seeking a contingency agreement that allows the renegotiation of the local foreign debt. The official has harshly criticized the government, businessmen, and labor unions for the attitude concerning the economic and social crisis which afflicts the country.

Lizano, who assumed the Central Bank presidency in September 1984 during Luis Alberto Monge's administration, was characterized by his liberal policies, which led him to criticize the credit and protectionist policies for the agrarian and livestock sector that are traditionally sponsored by the Social Democratic National Liberation Party (PLN).

EDITORIAL SAYS ARIAS NEGLECTING ECONOMY

PA282330 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 22 Mar 87b p 14-a

[Editorial "One Hour for the Economy"]

[Text] President Dr Oscar Arias has almost completely neglected economic matters in his government. He has been very active in the past few months in international negotiations of a political nature. The Central American peace problem has been the object of long radio and television speeches. Relations with the U.S. Government and the Costa Rican image in Europe have taken much of Arias' time. However, he has not spent much time analyzing the serious problem here in Costa Rica, nor has he made any statements regarding the country's economic future.

We are lacking official leadership in the economic field, and this is very serious. The statement by the Central Bank Executive President Dr Eduardo Lizano, which has had a great impact, proves this. Lizano presented his case to the media: The protectionism which has spread through almost all sectors is affecting efficiency, and thus, growth, employment, and prosperity. There is no political will to resolve the public finance problem. Unfortunately not one high-ranking government official paid attention to Lizano. Eduardo Lizano's complaints did not cause -- as was expected -- any statement from the highest levels defining the economic policy. Rather, they only generated isolated statements such as those by the agriculture minister, which instead of clarifying the matter made the situation more confusing.

Our interpretation of Eduardo Lizano's remarks is that it is not simply a matter of reducing the deficit in the public sector consolidated through excessive rates on decentralized organizations such as the Costa Rican Social Security Institute and some public enterprises such as RECOPE (Costa Rican Oil Refinery), or of raising new taxes for the central government since the central government is incapable of efficiently collecting the already established taxes. It is a matter of thoroughly reviewing the size of the state, its functions, efficiency, number of public workers, and their productivity; and the huge distortions produced in the economy by wreckless government participation and by the tax system, especially indirect taxes, which in addition to discouraging exports because they are used to maintain a traditional market, also promote all possible types of contraband. It is not a matter of just implementing what the agriculture minister calls "the agriculture of change." As we have noted on several occasions, the agriculture of change policy is a return to the past, to the old excessively protectionist and distorting policies, which instead of strengthening our agricultural system have rendered it more inefficient and weak.

Ironically, talks are taking place to discuss plans aimed at reaching stabilization agreements with the IMF and structural change agreements with the World Bank. This is going on behind closed doors and wrapped in great secrecy. The future of the taxpayers, public expenditures, the industrial and agricultural sectors, salaries, and the Costa Rican people's income is being discussed and negotiated privately with no one able to say a word about it. This is a grave situation not appropriate for a democracy such as ours. The president has said the source of action must be dialogue, and the people have to be convinced and not be victims of impositions.

The private sector is very upset, and rightly so, because soon a mission composed of First Vice President Jorge Manuel Dengo and Planning Minister Oton Solis will be leaving to negotiate with the World Bank the so-called structural change program without having discussed this program with those who would be most affected by changes: the industrialists, the farmers, the businessmen, and also all the workers in all the sectors, because they too have something to lose and something to gain in this and therefore are entitled to their say.

To summarize: We have noticed there is no government leadership in the economic field. The only plans on the horizon are those being prepared on the insistence of and under the auspices of international organizations. All this is being done in the most secret fashion. This is why we respectfully recommend a change. The government must define once and for all its economic policy, and bring it up for debate so the outcome may be the product of persuasion and not of impositions from the government or anyone else.

EL SALVADOR

FMLN REBELS ATTACK GARRISON, DESTROY QUARTERS

PA312108 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 2000 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Report by Raul Beltran]

[Text] A group of newsmen were authorized to enter the El Paraiso Infantry Brigade installations by instructions of General Adolfo Blandon, Salvadoran Army chief of staff, who was at the brigade's headquarters 70 km north of San Salvador, in Chalatenango Department.

According to the information gathered, FMLN rebels entered the headquarters at three different points. The guerrillas used 81-mm mortars and M-60 machineguns to completely destroy the sleeping quarters of the officers and troops. We repeat, the sleeping quarters of the El Paraiso Brigade officers were completely destroyed by the attack of leftist guerrillas early this morning. The charred bodies of several soldiers could be seen this morning. Several other soldiers were busy putting the bodies of their fellow soldiers in plastic bags. At noon some sections of the headquarters were still burning.

According to Gen Blandon, the leftist guerrillas' attack early this morning was aimed primarily at destroying the brigade's command post and the officers' sleeping quarters.

It has also been reported that the U.S. sergeant who acted as an adviser in El Salvador was killed in the officers' sleeping quarters. He was killed by a mortar shell that exploded very close to his head, according to the reports received. As we have mentioned, Gen Blandon said the leftist guerrillas' purpose was to destroy the brigade's command post. The officers' sleeping quarters were completely destroyed. At the time the guerrillas attacked, 250 soldiers were in the barracks, Gen Blandon said. Eight FMLN rebels were killed during the attack. The dead rebels still have not been removed from the installations. Col Gilberto Rubio, executive chief of the El Paraiso Brigade, is alive and well. At noon he spoke with newsmen who were authorized to enter the military installations. Col Rubio had a slight wound on his hand. We repeat, he was only slightly wounded.

It has been said this attack is very similar to the attack the rebels staged on the 3d Infantry Brigade in San Miguel last year.

U.S. Adviser Killed

PA311705 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1624 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Report by Raul Beltran]

[Excerpts] We now update our reports on the guerrilla attack against El Paraiso brigade in Chalatenango Department early today.

Initial Coprefa reports have confirmed that 43 Army troops were killed and 37 wounded, adding that a U.S. Army adviser stationed at that garrison was also killed during the clash.

The area is closed off at this moment, particularly to local and foreign newsmen who have positioned themselves at the Colima Bridge over the Lempa River on the Northern Trunk Highway. [passage omitted]

The SALPRESS News Agency, official voice of the left-wing Salvadoran rebels, reported that guerrillas occupied the garrison this morning and staged attacks in various Salvadoran departments to launch a new offensive called "People Take Up Weapons in Pursuit of Peace, Bread, Justice, and Freedom." SALPRESS reported that during this action sections of the Cobra and Azmitia Battalions, reconnaissance and special troops units, and the intelligence department offices were destroyed.

Official casualties include top Army officers, SALPRESS reported. It mentions 4th Brigade Commander Colonel Gilberto Rubio and Colonel Canjura, deputy commander of that brigade. Defense Ministry sources have said that reports on the death of these two colonels are untrue.

This is the second U.S. national to be killed in less than 1 week in El Salvador. Last week, when a helicopter crashed in Nueva Guadalupe, San Miguel Department, Coprefa reported that two pilots and two artillerymen had been killed. However, there was a fifth person killed. It was Richard Crown, member of the Central Intelligence Agency, CIA, who was also aboard that helicopter. Sources close to YSKL news department confirmed this today.

Body Flown to U.S.

PA010118 Paris AFP in Spanish 0056 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] San Salvador, 31 Mar (AFP) -- The body of the U.S. adviser who was killed during a guerrilla attack today on the Salvadoran garrison of El Paraiso, Chalatenango, was flown this afternoon to the United States, an embassy source told AFP. The source identified the adviser as Gregory Anthoni Frannius, 37, a native of the state of Ohio.

Frannius was killed this morning in El Paraiso, 60 km north of San Salvador, during an attack by the FMLN in which 43 soldiers were killed and 35 wounded, according to the official report.

Since 1981 the United States has kept a total of 55 military advisers in El Salvador who, in principle, are permanently banned from the war zones and from participating in combat.

Frannius is the sixth U.S. adviser who has been killed by the guerrillas. Four of them were killed in May 1983 in San Salvador when a rebel command attacked a city restaurant. In June 1985 the guerrillas killed Lieutenant Commander Albert Schaufelberger, deputy commander of a team of advisers, while he waited for a lady friend in his vehicle in a parking lot outside the Central American University in San Salvador.

Duarte To Inspect Damage

PA311828 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1700 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] It has been learned that General Adolfo O. Blandon, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, has arrived at the 4th Infantry Brigade. President Jose Napoleon Duarte will be doing the same to see the damage caused by the guerrilla attack.

Colonel Rubio on Attack

PA010049 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 2020 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] As a result of an attack launched early this morning by the FMLN on the installations of the 4th Infantry Brigade -- whose headquarters is in El Paraiso -- 60 km north of this capital, in Chalatenango Department, 43 soldiers died and 35 were wounded.

According to information provided by Colonel Gilberto Rubio, commander of the attacked military barracks, a U.S. sergeant who served as an adviser and whose name has not been established, also died.

In an effort to keep you informed, YSU went to El Paraiso to establish the damage caused by the FMLN.

The FMLN concentrated its fire on the area that houses the officers in charge of the garrison. Col Rubio, who according to the Clandestine Radio Venceremos died in the attack, told YSU the following:

[Begin recording] [Rubio] Gentlemen, the attack began at 0200 with mortars being fired at the installations of the brigade command post, that is, the area that houses the commander and his staff. That is where most of the firing was aimed. Later they fired on other buildings and installations but the damage was slighter there.

[Reporter] What kind of weapons did they use?

[Rubio] Basically .81 mm mortars.

[Reporter] What range do mortars have?

[Rubio] Approximately 4 km.

[Reporter] This means that they attacked from 4 km away?

[Rubio] Four km. It is possible that a small group with explosives and RPG-2 and RPG-7 rockets were able to penetrate.

[Reporter] Colonel, what about Army casualties?

[Rubio] We have 35 wounded soldiers who have already been evacuated to the military hospital, and 43 soldiers died. No officer or cadet has died.

[Reporter] Is it true that an American died?

[Rubio] A U.S. sergeant, who was an adviser, died.

[Reporter] What was his name?

[Rubio] I do not have his name. You can check with the U.S. Embassy.

[Reporter] From what point was the 4th Brigade attacked?

[Rubio] It was attacked from four directions: the east, by one or two mrtars; the west; and the north. [as heard]

[Reporter] If the perimeter of the installations is mined and there are security measures, how can the command explain this penetration?

[Rubio] Under the circumstances we believe it is possible that some soldiers are infiltrated FMLN militants that operated from within. I believe they penetrated because they opened a hole in the fence and were able to enter.

[Reporter] We understand there are some dead guerrillas inside the 4th Brigade installations, Colonel.

[Rubio] That's right. I am going to show them to you. They are over there. Let's go for a walk so you can see them.

[Reporter] What indications do you have that perhaps there were infiltrated people among the soldiers? Were there incidents where soldiers rose to fight other soldiers or backed the guerrillas?

[Rubio] When things like this happen the lights are turned off and you cannot tell who is who. In such a situation an infiltrated person can go into action without our noticing.

[Reporter] But what led you to believe that perhaps there were some infiltrated people?

[Rubio] Some explosions in places where such explosions were not very feasible.

[Reporter] For example?

[Rubio] For example, in this sector there were some buildings that were resistant to explosives from the outside. I think for this reason this could have been a job by someone inside.

[Reporter] How long did the fighting inside the 4th Brigade last?

[Rubio] The attack began at 0200 and ended at 0430. It lasted approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes.

[Reporter] How many attackers were there?

[Rubio] As I said, the attack came basically from outside the installations. It is very difficult to determine how many troops were attacking. This information can be obtained with time, but for the time being I cannot tell how many.

[Reporter] Colonel, we understand that following the attack there was a search conducted from the air and contact was established twice. What can you tell us about this?

[Rubio] Immediately after the attack was initiated we were able to communicate with the staff and the Air Force, and they sent support. In 30 minutes we had an armed AC-47 and helicopters on the perimeter of the installations.

[Reporter] How many helicopters?

[Rubio] I believe there were two helicopters. However, they relieved each other, which means there was continuous support as of 0230. We still have that support in order to continue pursuing them.

[Reporter] Are they UH-1M's?

[Rubio] No. UH-1H's.

[Reporter] How long did the mortar attack last?

[Rubio] Approximately 2 hours.

[Reporter] This is the second attack suffered by the brigade.

[Rubio] This is because of its location. The 4th Brigade is in the country and not in a city. It is a well-known place, a place easy to identify from a distance. It is possible this situation permits a subversive force to approach and set its arms at sites 1.5 to 4 km away without being detected and then attack with a 360-degree firing angle.

[Reporter] How do you explain the mobilization of heavy equipment by those people?

[Rubio] The 81-mm mortar is not heavy. It is composed of three pieces, and can be transported by three men.

[Reporter] How many mortars have to be used for an attack of this nature?

[Rubio] Not many are needed: four or five are enough. What is needed most is ammunition.

[Reporter] This means that perhaps they were shooting one or two mortars from each of the four positions.

[Rubio] More or less.

[Reporter] How many troops entered from how many of the positions? Maybe from one or two since I have been told they entered the perimeter at...

[Rubio, interrupting] At one site only, I believe. There is only one hole.

[Reporter] Do you have an idea about whether they were from a special force?

[Rubio] I believe these were forces with some special training.

[Reporter] How strong was the force that entered?

[Rubio] I could not tell. This is a big place. I cannot be everywhere, and it is very difficult to say, but judging from what we have seen it could have been 30 or 35 men, perhaps more, and all of them carrying explosives, perhaps attached to their bodies.

[Reporter] Some reports by the terrorists claim you fell in combat early this morning.

[Rubio] Here I am. I am the commander of the 4th Brigade.

[Question indistinct]

[Rubio] Colonel Sanjur is also here.

[Reporter] There is no officer wounded or dead, is there?

[Rubio] There is not.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] Americans?

[Rubio] I said a sergeant died.

[Reporter] No more?

[Rubio] No. Only that one.

[Reporter] In the 4th Brigade there are three or four [Americans] sometimes.

[Rubio] Yes. But they were not here, only the sergeant was here.

[Reporter] Usually how many of them sleep here?

[Rubio] Two. Sometimes three.

[Reporter] How would you characterize this attack on the 4th Brigade knowing that only a few days ago another officer said that the Armed Forces had been able to eradicate most of the FMLN forces from Chalatenango?

[Rubio] I could not comment on that at this moment. [end recording]

This is the information provided by Col Gilberto Rubio at the 4th Brigade, in El Paraiso. The two officers in charge of the military base were slightly wounded. This is the case of Col Rubio, who had his left hand bandaged. According to the report he was wounded by the explosion of a mortar early this morning.

Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Adolfo Blandon went to the site of the attack at dawn to inspect the damage. According to reports the military men who died in the attack are now being taken to the Armed Forces mortuary.

Venceremos on Attack

PA311945 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1825 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] We continue to receive preliminary reports from Chalatenango. One of them indicates the attack against the 4th Infantry Brigade began at 0200 with artillery fire. The garrison, including the command post, was seized a few minutes after the fighting began. There was only slight resistance in the western sector of the garrison where there were approximately 800 soldiers.

The only surviving radio operator of the Armed Forces was desperately asking for help from the 1st and 2d Infantry Brigades, stating the 4th Brigade had been turned into a living hell. The El Paraiso Garrison was lit with revolutionary fire and explosions for 3 hours, from 0200 to 0500.

In the attack on the garrison, all the battalion quarters were destroyed. In total, nine barracks were destroyed. The Azmitia, Cobra, and part of the Cayahuanca Battalions were there as well as the (Troes), (Recondo), and [word indistinct] special forces which were annihilated. The command post of the 4th Brigade was also wiped out. At this time we are confirming the names of the officers killed during the annihilation inside the command post of the 4th Infantry Brigade. [sentence as heard] The guardhouse, the communications post, all the company commands, and all the cantonments nearby were annihilated and an artillery company also suffered the blows of our revolutionary units.

The preliminary report from Chalatenango adds that the supply dumps and the ammunition dumps of each company were also destroyed. A 105-mm howitzer, a 120-mm mortar, several .50 caliber machineguns, and several armored artillery vehicles were destroyed during the occupation and destruction of the brigade. The report from Chalatenango at 1227 confirms that at 0510, a C-47 plane indiscriminately strafed the area around the garrison, endangering the lives of civilians.

Our forces controlled what had been the 4th Brigade garrison until 0600. They withdrew in an orderly manner when the planned objectives had been achieved. The enemy landed in Santa Rita to retake the ashes of the El Paraiso garrison. At 0715, three A-37 Dragonfly airplanes indiscriminately bombed Plan del Horno and Tremendal. At 0600, the enemy landed in Dulce Nombre de Maria with the same objective of retaking the ashes of the 4th Brigade.

The FMLN military maneuver, in addition to the seizure and destruction of this garrison, included an attack on the enemy position on the Azambio bridge which we held until 0600. Our extensive maneuver also included an attack on the enemy position on the [name indistinct] bridge.

The enemy fled in total disorder. Our maneuver also included dislodging a company of the Cayahuanca Battalion in (Empiras de Tejutla). It included an attack and harassment of enemy positions in Neuva Concepcion, El Refugio, and La Palma. This is one of the preliminary reports reaching Radio Venceremos from Chalatenango.

As we have already reported, most of the 800 soldiers of the 4th Brigade were annihilated by the FMLN attack.

Attention. We confirm the death of a U.S. adviser in the 4th Infantry Brigade. At 1230 we received the confirmation that the U.S. adviser died in [passage indistinct] while crashed in the area of Chinameca, there were only two Salvadoran pilots and two artillerymen. The information confirmed by the U.S. State Department indicates that the U.S. Army captain, an agent of the Central Intelligence Agency, was traveling in the helicopter that accidentally crashed in the San Miguel area. Including the U.S. Army captain who died when the helicopter crashed some days ago in the eastern region, and the U.S. adviser who died today, 31 March, two U.S. advisers have died in combat missions as a result of Reagan's interventionist policy in El Salvador.

FMLN 'COMMUNIQUE' ON ATTACKS DURING 'OPERATION'

PA311957 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1811 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Communique No 1 issued by the FMLN General Command in El Salvador -- dated 31 March]

[Text] We report to our working people as well as to the local and international media that at 0200 today, 31 March 1987, the operation called "For the Achievement of Bread, Land, Work and Freedom; All People Take Up Arms," began.

It consisted of wide-ranging maneuvers, the central features of which were three important simultaneous oeprations: an attack on the garrison of the 4th Infantry Brigade; annihilation of its forces; and destruction of its war weapons. As part of our maneuver, two sections of Military detachment No 5 at La Campana Hill, Cuscatlan Department, were attacked and wiped out. Simultaneously, in the country's eastern region, we attacked and wiped out a company of the 15 September Battalion of the National Guard.

Here is a partial list of the results of this operation: destruction of two barracks [casas cuartel], including the Command Post, and seizure of support weapons. At the same time we carried out successful attacks on enemy positions in the city of Chalatenango; [words indistinct] in Tejutla; the (Suyate) and (Acambio) bridges (?in) San Rafael. We also seized control of the road linking Chalatenango to El Paraiso.

We report that during only 2 hours of combat today the FMLN has inflicted the largest number of casualties on the puppet army in a single operation thus far during the war. A preliminary estimate indicates that the Duartist Army has suffered several hundred casualties. In the 4th Brigade alone there were between 700 and 800 soldiers, most of whom were rapidly annihilated during our lightning attack. We struck with rifles and support weapons, such as mortars and rocket launchers, which were used with great precision and valor by the fighters of our revolutionary army.

With all these simultaneous operations covering the country's northern, central, and eastern regions, we have opened a new military campaign that involves a new and higher dimension in the war by the people and demonstrates their maneuvering capacity and strength. [passage indistinct]

These actions by the masses -- which the Christian Democratic government is trying to smother through an increasingly barefaced repression -- show that the people are aware these victories will be achieved through an organized and combatant struggle. The Salvadoran popular masses are not alone in this heroic, sacrificial struggle. The people's army is beside them, sinking the regime and its Army into their inevitable defeat.

All the People to Defeat Duarte! For the Achievement of Bread, Land, Work, and Freedom; All People Take Up Arms! United to Fight Until Final Victory! Revolution or Death, We Will Overcome!

[Signed] Commanders Joaquin Villalobos, Shafick Jorge Handal, Roberto Roca, Forman Cienfuegos, and Leonel Gonzalez.

FMLN General Command. El Salvador, 31 March 1987.

Estanzuelas Report

PA312015 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1838 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] We are receiving information on part of the nationwide maneuver to launch the "For the Achievement of Bread, Land, Work, and Freedom, All People Take Up Arms," military campaign.

From the east we have learned that the FMLN occupied the town of Estanzuelas early on 31 March. It attacked and annihilated forces of the National Guard's 15 September Battalion. The FMLN inflicted approximately 20 casualties on the enemy. It seized a 90-mm cannon, an M-60 machinegun, and other military supplies from the Army.

Attention, attention please! As part of the nationwide military maneuver undertaken before dawn today, we have learned that the FMLN inflicted 15 casualties on troops that were attempting to reinforce the 15 September Battalion in Estanzuelas. This action took place in the Villa El Triunfo area on the Panamerican Highway. [word indistinct] in San Idelfonso.

Another report states that our units destroyed the 15 September Battalion's communications equipment, military storehouse, and two garrison posts in Estanzuelas.

Relampago Battalion Report

PA312036 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1922 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Your close attention, please. This is a war bulletin we have received from the Modesto Ramirez Central Front on the annihilation attack on the command of the enemy post that guarded positions at La Campana Hill, on the road between San Martin and Suchitoto. Your close attention, Salvadoran people. This is another great victory for our people in arms:

Within the framework of the FMLN's general operation called "For the Achievement of Bread, Land, Work, and Freedom, All People Take Up Arms," at 2320 on 30 March an FMLN guerrilla unit carried out an attack on strategic positions of the Relampago Battalion of Military Detachment No 5, on the road between San Martin and Suchitoto, known as La Campana Hill. The enemy regarded this area as impregnable because two sections of the 4th company and the command post of the Relampago Battalion are located there.

During the first 15 minutes of fighting, our units wiped out the positions at La Campana Hill. These are the results of this smashing attack: 60 casualties -- dead and wounded -- which include the section commanders and the officers of the command group. Two PRC-77 radios, rifles, and equipment were destroyed. In addition we seized 1 M-16 rifle, 1 M-79 grenade launcher, 5 M-79 grenades, 8 60-mm mortar shells, 500 5.56-caliber cartridges, 3 ranger knapsacks; 4 [words indistinct], and 3 pairs of boots.

GUATEMALA

PRESIDENT GIVES DETAILS ON VISIT TO NICARAGUA

PA310428 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Upon his return from Nicaragua tonight, President Vinicio Cerezo talked about the topics discussed in his meeting with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra.

[Cerezo] "We talked about the various proposals and projects for Central American peace. We particularly discussed the proposal presented by President Arias, but we also discussed some aspects of the Contadora proposal and a possible agenda for the Esquipulas meeting, which will take place in a few weeks.

The second topic of discussion [changes thought] we did not reach any conclusions. We only exchanged viewpoints, however some specific things were attained. For example, Nicaragua agreed to hold the Esquipulas meeting on 25-26 June. This decision was accepted by President Azcona and President Arias. Therefore the Esquipulas meeting will take place on 25-26 June. The second thing that was accepted was to include the problem of regional arms buildup and the possibility of appointing a commission to discuss this topic in depth at the meeting. Those issues were not fully covered by the Arias proposal.

In general, I would say the meeting was very, very interesting because it was also decided to view the Central American situation from a realistic point of view. That implies discussing the presence of the United States in Central America and the need to avoid falling into the East-West conflict as part of the discussion for the Esquipulas meeting."

The Guatemalan president also talked about the joint communique signed with Ortega Saavedra, which stresses the need for a dialogue to settle the regional problems.

[Cerezo] "We signed a joint communique in which we ratified general topics about Guatemalan foreign policy. First, we made a statement regarding the promotion of a policy of dialogue and not one of military confrontation in Central America. Second, we made a statement on the maintenance of the active neutrality policy and President Ortega's support for the Central American Parliament Initiative, the members of which will be directly elected by the people."

[Reporter] "[Words indistinct] political parties [words indistinct] what was their opinion regarding the current government?"

[Cerezo] "Yes, in fact we met with the various political organizations there. We met with the Social Christian Party, one of the strongest opposition parties, and with the party president, Erick Ramirez. We met with the group that is called the group of the seven parties, who have proposed the need for internal dialogue about the elections and political participation in the government. The president of the Guatemalan Congress met with the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board to get in touch with all the Nicaraguan political sectors. That organization includes labor unions and private enterprise sectors.

"The opinion of these groups is that presently there are some difficulties in participating in the government, but the possibilities that the Central American parliament offers would create conditions for a specific political opening in Nicaragua."

FRG PRESIDENT CONCLUDES OFFICIAL VISIT

PA312145 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] FRG President Richard von Weizsaecker officially concluded his 3-day visit to Guatemala yesterday. Guatemalan officials described the FRG president's visit as historical for the establishment of better relations with Europe.

Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo said the visit, the first one by an FRG president in over 100 years of friendly relations, was the first one in a series of visits. Other presidents and top rulers of democratic countries, who as the FRG does, support our own democratization process, will soon come to our country, Cerezo said. However, replying to questions regarding the next president or head of state that will visit Guatemala, Cerezo requested patience and said the name will be announced in due time.

President Cerezo presided over the protocol farewell ceremony of his counterpart Von Weizsaecker and his retinue, which took place at La Aurora Military Airport in Guatemala City. As in the arrival ceremony, the farewell ceremony did not include speeches by either of the two presidents.

At the airport, Alfonso Cabrera, the special affairs minister and the secretary general of the Christian Democratic Party, said that Von Weizsaecker's presence is another expression of the FRG's support for the democratization process that began in Guatemala on 14 January 1986, when Cerezo was inaugurated as president of Guatemala after the country had lived under 2 decades of military regimes.

In addition, Guatemalan Foreign Minister Mario Quinonez Amezquita said that Von Weizsaecker's visit shows support for the democratization process and the active neutrality policy that Guatemala maintains in the Central American conflict. In his meeting with President Cerezo, Von Weizsaecker spoke about the Central American problem and the support that the region's budding democracy should receive, Foreign Minister Quinonez said.

At the legislative Congress on Friday, Von Weizsaecker reiterated the FRG's support for the Guatemalan process, for the process of the rest of Latin American and particularly for the Central American region which is defined as its main economic partner.

Cerezo disclosed that another objective of the FRG president's visit was to observe the human rights situation in Guatemala. For this purpose, Von Weizsaecker held private meetings with the leaders of the Mutual Support Group, GAM, which is composed of relatives of missing people; and with Guatemala City Archbishop Prospero Penados del Barrio.

As the final point of his visit, on Friday, Von Weizsaecker signed with Cerezo a financial cooperation agreement worth [figure indistinct]. This loan, which carries a 50-year term, a 10-year grace period, and an annual interest rate of 0.75 percent [as heard], will be used to build a road in northern Guatemala and to finance foreign currency deficits in the bilateral trade.

Von Weizsaecker and his retinue remained in Guatemala for a few more hours. They went on a private visit to the area of Tika in Peten, where there are ruins of the Mayan period. The FRG president left on Sunday from Santa Elena International Airport in Peten for Cancun, Mexico.

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA WARNS OF IMPENDING U.S. INVASION

PA312236 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 29 Mar 87 p 1

[By Roberto Fonseca]

[Text] San Ramon, Matagalpa -- The "Solid Shield" military maneuvers, which are scheduled to take place in Honduran territory in April with the participation of approximately 50,000 U.S. troops, constitutes one of the most dangerous moments the revolution will have experienced in the past 7 years, Nicaraguan President Commander Daniel Ortega said in Managua at the closing ceremonies of the Fifth Coffee Battle. "The United States is trying to establish the exact conditions for an invasion," Ortega said; "at no other time has the threat against Nicaragua been this clear, now that all of the technical and operative-tactical conditions have been created for a military invasion."

Nevertheless, the Nicaraguan president said, the U.S. Government cannot count on political conditions favorable for a military aggression, either on the part of the U.S. Congress, the American people, or the international community. Ortega said, "We are face to face with a leader who has been characterized by his warmongering and adventurous policies. Therefore, we must not lower our guard."

The president urged the Nicaraguan people "to be prepared to confront, resist, and defeat the military aggression should it come"' and he confirmed the Nicaraguan Government's confidence that "all of the people, just as they raised their arms to harvest the coffee, will do the same to cut off the heads of the invading Yankees."

FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER ENDS VISIT TO USSR

PA312247 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 28 Mar 87 p 4

[By David Gutierrez Lopez, BARRICADA USSR correspondent]

[Text] Nicaraguan Foreign Trade Minister Alejandro Martinez today met with Vladimir Kamentsev, Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, after a 6-day official visit in which he analyzed bilateral cooperation and its future broadening for the development of Nicaragua's economic interests. During the meeting, Kamentsev, also president of the State Foreign Economy Commission, explained the USSR's concept of the economy, which seeks to hasten socio-economic development upon the basis of the planned distribution of international effort. Kamentsev explained the steps the USSR is taking in economic transformation (perestroyka) whereby ministries and institutions are granted the right to export and import. It is also aimed at establishing mixed companies in various capitalist and underdeveloped countries.

During his visit, Martinez Cuenca requested the donation of a 1,500-ton ship, which will be used to transport cargo on the Atlantic Coast between the ports of Bluefields and Puerto Cabezas.

During his talks with Yuriy Volmer, minister of the USSR maritime fleet, a meeting with the Nicaraguan Transportation Minister Commander William Ramirez was agreed upon to negotiate aspects of the development of Nicaragua's naval transportation and freight systems. Also reviewed was the contracting of cargo ships for the transportation of Nicaraguan bananas to European and USSR ports, based upon the fulfillment of export contracts for national produce including coffee, sugar, and especially meat, which represent an annual income of approximately $16 million for Nicaragua.

Martinez Cuenca also met with Yuriy Ivanov, president of the USSR Foreign Trade Bank, with whom solutions were explored that would allow Nicaragua to achieve a firm and secure financial situation, in accordance with the national interests of the revolutionary government.

In the course of the Nicaraguan delegation's visit, a visit to Nicaragua in the near future by a Ladvia Transportation Company commission was agreed upon to allow the company to get a first hand view of the country's transportation needs.

Martinez Cuenca will go on to London where he will participate in a meeting with representatives from the International Coffee Organization [OIC] and the group of countries that recently visited Managua as part of the convocation of Central American economy ministers, who have made a joint effort based upon the unity of the countries of the region to reestablish the coffee quota system in a short time. Martinez Cuenca will also hold a meeting with top OIC representatives, at which the agreements made in Managua will be reported. This meeting is very important. The issue of coffee after the dramatic fall of prices, which has already resulted in heavy negative losses for the deteriorated economies of the Central American countries, will be discussed.

"Nicaragua supports the meetings to reestablish negotiations between the producers and consumers, and the reestablishment of the quotas which, because no agreement was reached at the last meeting in London, has made coffee prices plunge," Martinez Cuenca said in a statement to BARRICADA.

At the meeting in London, Nicaragua will state its desire for dialogue as a means of making the countries' positions on the coffee issue more flexible. This is another effort within the responsibilities that Nicaragua has assumed in the attempt to continue being an instrument of dialogue for the underdeveloped countries' interests.

MISURA, KISAN ESTABLISH 'SOLE MILITARY FORCE'

PA271343 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0005 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Panama City, 25 Mar (DPA) -- The MISURA [Miskitos, Sumus, and Ramas] and KISAN [Unity of the Nicaraguan Atlantic Coast Indigenous Peoples] Nicaraguan Atlantic Coast indigenous groups have issued a joint declaration in Panama City.

In it they state that the unification of indigenous peoples in a single bloc of Indian resistance to the Sandinist regime is necessary, and that in view of this, they are now establishing a sole military force, which as of today, 25 March, 1987, will be called the "Unified Indigenous Armed Forces of the Atlantic Coast" [Fuerzas Armadas Unificadas Indigenas de Costa Atlantica].

The declaration says: "We have established a sole joint general staff." The document released to the press is signed by Commanders Marcelo Melado (MISURA) and Wycliffe Diego (KISAN).

"We will now intensify our struggle for the vindication of indigenous peoples," it adds.

PSC LEADERS PREVENTED FROM GREETING CEREZO

PA301530 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1837 GMT 29 Mar 87

[Text] Managua, 29 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Leaders of the opposition Nicaraguan Social Christian Party [PSC] have charged that they were unable to greet President Vinicio Cerezo at Sandino Airport today "because the Sandinist authorities prevented it."

Members of the PSC national executive center went to Sandino Airport to unofficially welcome Cerezo, who is making a 9-hour visit to Managua today.

According to PSC sources, it had been agreed with the Sandinist and Guatemalan authorities that the opposition members could greet Cerezo on his arrival at the airport. However, the meeting between the Social Chrisitian dissidents and Cerezo at the airport did not take place because, according to them, "the protocol authorities prevented it" by prohibiting the opposition leaders access to the landing area.

The Social Christian politicians are scheduled to meet with Cerezo in the next few hours at a restaurant in the outskirts of Managua. They said they will report to President Cerezo on the Sandinist government's "pressure" against the leaders of the opposition parties.

ALARCON COMPLAINS ABOUT DENIAL OF U.S. VISAS

FL312350 Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 2130 GMT 31 Mar 87

[By Jose Antonio Fornaris]

[Text] Besides sabotaging the Antillean meeting marking the 84th anniversary of the founding of the University of Puerto Rico, the refusal to grant visas to the Cuban delegation is an open act of U.S. colonial intervention. This was said by Ricardo Alarcon, Cuban deputy foreign minister, during a news conference held today at the House of the Americas, to expose this new human rights violation.

The Cuban complaint, delivered to domestic and international press organizations, indicated that on 20 January 1987, the dean of the University of Puerto Rico wrote to the Cuban culture minister extending official invitations to a group of Cuban intellectuals to participate in the important anniversary. The meeting was supposed to be held from 8 to 10 April. Dominican and Puerto Rican intellectuals were also going to participate, making evident the Antillean unity ideal by highlighting common ties between the three large Spanish-speaking Antillean islands. Among the Cubans invited were the Cuban culture minister, a deputy foreign minister, the president of the House of the Americas, the directors of the Marti Studies Center and the Museum of the City of Havana, professors from the University of Havana and Higher Institute of Art, and researchers from the Jose Marti National Library, the House of the Caribbean, and the America Studies Center. All of them have been acknowledged for their academic work.

Deputy Foreign Minister Alarcon also noted that the meeting was mainly academic, although of course some subjects considered to be political could be discussed, but he added that the main reason for the denial of visas to the Cuban delegation was the Antillean nature of the meeting, Since the Antillean ideal implies unity against imperialism.

Roberto Fernandez Retamar, president of the House of the Americas, and other Cuban intellectuals participated in the news conference.

FORCES TO REMAIN IN ANGOLA AS LONG AS NECESSARY

FL311517 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Cuba has reiterated its decision to remain in Angola as long as the legitimate government of the People's Republic of Angola considers it necessary for Cuba and the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola to guarantee the independence and territorial integrity of the African country. The internationalist vocation of the Cuban revolution was ratified in Havana by Pedro Ross, Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee secretary in a ceremony presided over by Jorge Risquet Valdes, PCC Politubro member, on the 11th anniversary of the Angolan victory over the South African racists.

RADIO NOTES CHANGES IN HAITIAN MILITARY

FL252215 Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 2130 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Port-au-Prince -- Haitian authorities have made sudden changes in the Army's High Command and the Interior Ministry prior to the constitutional referendum scheduled for Sunday [29 March].

An Information Ministry communique confirmed that Interior Minister Colonel William Regala was promoted to the rank of brigadier general and appointed assistant to the chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces and noted other changes in the military hierarchy.

The changes, announced only 4 days before the referendum on the new draft constitution, have taken local observers by surprise.

COMMENTARY VIEWS CONTRA PRESENCE IN HONDURAS

PA302000 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 29 Mar 87

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The presence of approximately 10,000 Nicaraugan contras in Honduras worries many sectors in the country because of the political risks that this entails for President Azcona, who tolerates the presence of those irregular forces, whose actions have no relation to an alleged liberation of Nicaragua.

In this regard, as an initial factor, we recall that the Somozists control most of Honduras' El Paraiso Department. However, their ravages have even reached Tegucigalpa, the capital city, and other Honduran cities. As part of their alleged liberation struggle, the Somozists have expelled some 40,000 people from the occupied region. Production has been paralyzed because of the permanent climate of uncertainty, the economic loss is in the millions of dollars.

For many reasons, the counterrevolutionary enterprise has not been particularly successful. Therefore, the frustration and uneasiness among the displaced people caused a tremendous wave of crime. A few days ago, Deputy Nicolas Cruz Torres, of the ruling Liberal Party, said: Now the contras rob banks and small businesses everywhere with cars, machineguns, and other sophisticated weapons that in no way are available to Hondurans. Cruz Torres added that crime has rapidly increased as the mercenaries alternate their operations at the border with crime throughout the country. They are uncontrolled armed troops, like the buccaneeers that once attacked American ports.

At this point, it is good to mention also the pretended secrecy of the irregular troops. As they do not officially exist in Honduras, they are under no control. In this manner, they own many business establishments in Tegucigalpa and in other cities, and they do not pay taxes because they receive U.S. dollars. Therefore, they have an advantage over Honduran merchants.

Amid the economic crisis affecting Honduras, the Somozist occupation is increasingly affecting the economic interests of private enterprise, which has already expressed its rejection of the mercenary bands operating under the protection of the national government. Uneasiness is also beginning to show within the Armed Forces. In some sectors, there are even talks about the expulsion of the contras who, according to some officers, enjoy more privileges because they are better paid than Honduran soldiers and are preferred by the Americans.

This is the situation created by the, quote, freedom fighters, unquote, of President Ronald Reagan, who has imposed the presence of the mercenaries in Honduras. It could create serious problems for President Azcona, in view of the growing rejection from various sectors.

ARIAS TRIES TO GET SUPPORT FOR 'ALTERNATIVE' PLAN

PA182058 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Mar 87

["Note" feature read by Amalia Sanmartino]

[Text] Costa Rican president Oscar Arias has just visited Panama, a country where he tried to please both friend and foe. Consequently, Arias asked the Panamanian Government to support the plan that he is promoting in Central America. However, he went further when he asked Panamanian officials to promote this project within the Contadora Group because he feels the support of that peace group is indispensable.

If one has not followed Arias' steps closely, it could be said that the efforts he claims he is making to achieve peace in the region are praiseworthy. However, his contradictory positions show what he is like.

Everyone knows that on 15 February, Arias presented a plan to his Honduran, Salvador, and Guatemalan counterparts. Among other things, this plan proposes a dialogue between the Nicaraguan Government and the counterrevolutionaries and new elections in that nation. The meeting, held in San Jose, failed, and a new meeting has been convoked in Esquipulas on 15 May, when Arias will again present his plan which, as is known, is being suggested as an alternative to the Contadora and Support Groups plan.

Arias denied that his plan is an alternative, but if this were not so he would not be going all over the place seeking support for it. In addition, if this hackneyed plan was not intended to get Nicaragua to make concessions of principles, Arias would not be seeking Contadora's support but would instead be backing the group's proposals, whose main foundations are respect for the Nicaraguan people's self-determination and a halt to the aggression against that country.

After openly going against Nicaragua through this plan, which was drafted with U.S. assistance, Arias, whose government gives shelter to former Somozist bands, is trying to iron out differences and is always trying to seek respectability for his plans.

It is said that ability is indispensable in political matters, but it is not a quality that the Costa Rican president has.

CHILEAN PARTIES LAW SPARKS CALL FOR PROTESTS

PA230204 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Mar 87

["Our America" commentary read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] On 25 March, Santiago, Chile, will be the site of a national protest in favor of free elections, a 22-percent salary increase for workers, an end to massive dismissals, and the end of the denationalization of state enterprises. What sparked this protest called by the National Workers Command was the recent proclamation by the fascist regime of the Political Parties Law, which proscribes the leftist organizations and makes it obligatory for the others to publish lists with the names of their militants, a measure that clearly serves repressive interests.

The Political Parties Law is seen as a complement of the Constitution imposed by Pinochet through a rigged plebiscite. It calls for an 8-year presidential term that would in in 1989, the year when the Armed Forces will propose the person they believe must be in charge of the country. If Pinochet is ratified, he would remain in power until 1997, and his misgovernment would last 24 years.

The Political Parties Law has been rejected by the most diverse Chilean political forces. Christian Democratic Party sectors oppose it, believing it to be antidemocratic. This means that the dictatorship has lost the support of those who once applauded and facilitated the coup d'etat of 1973 against the government of President Salvador Allende. Nevertheless, Pinochet insists on maintaining his fascist power in the country. During a recent speech to a group of supporters in the little southern town of Coyhaique, Pinochet said his personal mission is to consolidate the ultraright in power in the face of what he called the Marxist threat. Pinochet also spoke about the situation of exiles and noted that many of them will not be able to return to the country because they would represent an obstacle to the plans of the government.

The truth is that internal contradictions in Chile are becoming more acute as time goes by. The regime does not want to desist from its continuistic objective, as the chairman of the military government junta, coupist Admiral Jose Toribio Merino, admitted on the 16th of this month, while at the same time the opposition states that free and open elections are necessary as an essential condition for a return to democracy.

External factors are to be considered in this process. One external factor to be considered is the role that Washington may play in the future in the face of the Chilean dictatorship. There are rumors that this role could include diversionist maneuvers such as those that took place in Haiti and the Philippines.

One very important element -- in our opinion a fundamental element -- for the future of Chile is the mobilization of the masses, which, using various paths, including armed activities, is an expression of the will for change, a will that will be decisive in the current Chilean situation.

PROTESTS, STRIKES AGAINST CHILEAN REGIME

PA312204 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Commentary by Amalia Sanmartino]

[Text] On the eve of the visit by Pope John Paul II to Chile, the situation appears extremely difficult for the dictatorship, which is trying to present to its guest the image of a country free of conflicts. Massive protests, hunger strikes by political prisoners, and banishment of opponents underline the current Chilean political panorama and constitute signs of deterioration of a regime stubbornly determined to remain in power.

In this regard, it must be added that nearly 400 political prisoners continue their hunger strike against the mistreatment they suffer in the jails. The hunger strike has already caused dangerous medical complications for four prisoners.

The political prisoners' hunger strike places the regime of General Augusto Pinochet in a difficult position because it is being forced to explain the irregular situation in the prisons, not only to public opinion but also to Fernando Volio, the UN special adviser on human rights, who is visiting Chile.

Meanwhile, the recent banishment of former Foreign Minister Clodomiro Almeyda to an inhospitable and remote southern region has been condemned, not only in Chile but throughout the world. The prestigious GDR newspaper NEUES DEUTSCHLAND stated that Almeyda's detention clearly unmasks Pinochet's deceitful attempt to present himself as a democrat. The newspaper added that the measure adopted against Almeyda shows that the new political parties law recently promulgated by the Chilean regime encourages the continued persecution of all antifascists.

For the past 13 years, the Chilean people have been suffering under one of the most repressive dictatorships in that nation's history. However, passiveness has not been a characteristic of the working masses. On the contrary, the struggle for life and confrontation with the repressive forces characterize the current situation of that South American country.

CASTRO, USSR'S VICTOR CHEBRIKOV TOUR HAVANA

FL311454 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee, has accompanied Viktor M. Chebrikov, chairman of the USSR Committee for State Security, on an extensive tour of Havana.

The first location visited was the Institute of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, where they were given an explanation of the most recent advances in that area of science. Later, they toured the Institute of Tropical Medicine, where they talked with the construction workers building the installation, who pledged to complete the project within the established timeframe. Fidel and Chebrikov then spoke with professors and students of the Exact Sciences Institute.

Another location they visited was the Los Naranjos Genetic Enterprise, where they received a detailed explanation of the procedures implemented to produce more milk and meat. While at the Genetic Enterprise, Fidel spoke with local students and promised them that at the end of the school year the best student from each grade will receive a trip to the Soviet Union as an award.

Students from the Ernesto Che Guevara Basic Secondary School very enthusiastically received Fidel, Chebrikov, and the Soviet delegation.

CEMA MEETING ON MACHINE BUILDING OPENS IN HAVANA

PA260455 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Report by Marianela Samper]

[Text] The CEMA countries' support to the industrial development of Vietnam, Cuba, and Mongolia represents one of the main topics on the work agenda for the sixth meeting, which has begun under the presidency of Aleksey Konstantinovich Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Antonov stated in his opening speech that the session is being held at a time when our economies have entered the development stage, the rational use of material and labor resources, and scientific-technical potential.

[Begin Antonov recording] Given the complex international situation, the socialist countries' initiatives are aimed at preventing a nuclear catastrophe and helping attain peace and progress. Machine building and the unity of all the workers in this sector are an important contribution and will help accomplish the historic missions which lay ahead to attain our countries' development. [end recording]

Pedro Miret, member of the Communist Party of Cuba's Politburo leads our delegation. He welcomed those participating in the CEMA meeting on machine building and said that this is a good occasion to show some of the Cuban revolution's achievements throughout all these years.

[Begin Miret recording] This meeting is particularly important for the less-developed CEMA member countries because we will discuss topics concerning an increase in our development and the ways to increase our integration to the socialist community. A good example of this is that yesterday we agreed to sign three agreements with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to develop specialization and cooperation in the production sector. This was possible within the framework of this event. [end recording]

Delegations from Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, GDR, Romania, Vietnam, Mongolia, Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, and Cuba will analyze the advances achieved in the program for scientific-technical progress, which has strategic importance for the socialist community. They will also check the programs for the development and construction of machinery until the year 2000, and other topics directly linked with the main goal of getting better quality products and a higher technical level. The development of machinery and spare parts production in 16 basic areas of the mechanical sector has been proposed to market the products among socialist states. Cuba will present a proposal on this concern; it includes a joint production of equipment for the sugar, agricultural, public health, naval construction, and food industries, which will strengthen our exports.

Meeting Ends

FL270324 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] The Sixth Meeting of the CEMA Commission for Machine Building that met for 3 days at the Palace of Conventions ended late in the afternoon with the approval of a group of 10 tasks that guarantee the development of CEMA member countries.

Cuba is developing a program for the next 20 years in the machine building area that will be fully supported by CEMA. The member countries will cooperate in the modernization of civil aviation and the production of two passenger aircraft.

As a result of the meeting, interested countries signed agreements to develop specialized production of vessels and machine tools in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The next meeting will be held in Poland at the end of the year.

Castro Meets Vice Presidents

FL281408 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1202 GMT 28 Mar 87

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has met with vice presidents of the Councils of Ministers from CEMA-member countries, who are members of their countries' committees for cooperation on machine building. The delegation heads attended the Sixth Meeting of the CEMA Machine Building Committee, which ended in Cuba on Thursday [26 March].

Aleksey K Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR's Council of Ministers and permanent Soviet representative to CEMA, presided over the meeting and the visitors held a lively dialogue with the chief of the Cuban revolution, who exchanged opinions with the delegates. During the meeting, our delegation said Cuba is capable of increasing machinery exports to CEMA countries.

CASTRO MEETS WITH SED POLITBURO MEMBER

FL281516 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1203 GMT 28 Mar 87

[Text] Guenther Kleiber, member of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] Politburo and deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, has met with Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers. In addition to analyzing Cuban-GDR relations, they discussed organizational aspects of economic tasks in the construction of socialism.

The Cuban and GDR Governments have signed an additional protocol in Havana known as the Inter-Governmental Credit Agreement for Cooperation, which has been effective since 1986, and a memorandum was signed on the meeting of presidents of scientific-technical cooperation commissions. This year, Cuban-GDR trade exceeds 600 million rubles, which represents a 7 percent growth in comparison to 1986.

FURTHER ON VISIT BY POLAND'S JOZEF CZYREK

Meets Raul Castro

LD280645 Warsaw PAP in English 2111 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] Havana, March 27 -- Political Bureau member, PUWP CC Secretary Jozef Czyrek, now in Cuba, met with Second Secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] CC Raul Castro Ruz. In an atmosphere of brotherhood and friendship, they exchanged views on the international policy and expressed satisfaction over the development of Polish-Cuban relations. The meeting was attended by member of the Political Bureau and Secretariat of PCC CC Jorge Risquet.

Meets Officials

LD270735 Warsaw PAP in English 2309 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Havana, March 26 -- PUWP CC Political Bureau member Jozef Czyrek, now on a visit to Cuba, met with Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] CC Political Bureau member Jorge Risquet Valdes-Saldana. The two exchanged information about the current issues of activity of both parties, expressed satisfaction with the hitherto development of relations between the PUWP and PCC, and decided to act for tightening and broadening of them.

Czyrek also held talks with Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, during which the two exchanged views on key international issues, pointing out to the threat stemming from armaments. They also expressed full support to the peace intiatives of the USSR and other socialist states.

YUGOSLAVIA'S ORLANDIC HEADS DELEGATION

Welcomed by Risquet

FL310044 Havana Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Marko Orlandic, member of the Presidium of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY] Central Committee, arrived in our country a while ago ahead of a delegation that was invited by the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee. The delegation was welcomed at the Jose Marti International Airport by Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the PCC Politburo.

The visitor said Yugoslavia and the LCY consider talks with the Republic of Cuba and the PCC to be of great importance. Speaking about his visit he said:

[Begin Orlandic recording in vernacular with consecutive Spanish translation] it will be a good opportunity to exchange information on the activities of the two parties, within the framework of domestic and international affairs, and also to exchange views on the most important international relations events, as well as the Plenum of the International Labor Movement. [end recording]

The LCY leader will hold talks with PCC leaders and will visit the provinces of Cienfuegos and Santiago de Cuba.

Begins Official Talks

LD011014 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1702 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Havana, 31 Mar (TANJUG) -- A regular dialogue between Cuba and Yugoslavia, two friendly and nonaligned, socialist countries, is welcomed, useful, and contributes to promoting bilateral political and economic relations. This was noted today by Marko Orlandic, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, and Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee, at the beginning of official talks in Havana.

In an atmosphere of openness, understanding, and mutual respect, Orlandic and Risquet today discussed the need to further strengthen party and political relations, and to maintain a regular dialogue. They expressed also their satisfaction with the development of economic cooperation between the two countries. In addition, they discussed the world situation, particularly the Nonaligned Movement, a movement which both nations helped to found.

During his 5-day stay in Cuba, Orlandic will visit the Provinces of Cienfuegos and Santiago de Cuba; meetings are also planned with other high-ranking leaders. Orlandic's arrival in Havana and his first meeting and informal exchange of views with Risquet at Jose Marti International Airport were prominently reported in the Cuban press.

SWAPO PRESIDENT NUJOMA CONTINUES REGIONAL VISIT

Talks With Reporters

FL301317 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Here is a report on the arrival yesterday of Sam Nujoma, president of the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO. Comrade Sam Nujoma arrived in our country from Managua, Nicaragua, where he received the Carlos Fonseca Amador Order, the highest distinction awarded by the Sandinist National Liberation Front. Fernando Guardado has more details.

On arrival at the Havana Airport, Sam Nujoma was warmly welcomed by Jorge Risquet, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo. Nujoma came from Nicaragua, where he was decorated with the Carlos Fonseca Order, the highest Nicaraguan award. The SWAPO leader had earlier visited Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, Peru, Venezuela, and Panama. Sam Nujoma also received the combative greetings of a group of young Namibians studying in Cuba, waiting on the airport's tarmac.

The African leader then talked with reporters to assess the objectives and results of his tour of seven Latin American nations, which he thanked for their solidarity with the cause of Namibian independence.

[Begin Nujoma recording in English with consecutive Spanish translation; translated from Spanish -- in progress] ...Consequently, we would like to take this opportunity to come to give them our greetings and thank them for this stand, and to talk to them about the progress of the liberation struggle of our country, as well as the political and diplomatic progress in the decolonization of Namibia. Wherever we went we asked those governments to denounce and reject the U.S. Adminstration's insistence on linking the Namibian decolonialization process to the withdrawal of Cuban internationalist forces from the People's Republic of Angola. We have made it clear that Angola is a sovereign state and has the legitimate right to seek any kind of help or reach any kind of agreement with any other country that it wishes, just as any other country can do the same, including the United States itself. Therefore, the United States must be condemned, condemned for its interference in Angola's internal affairs.

Namibia is a colony. The oppressed and colonialized people of Namibia have the right to struggle for their liberation. We have asked that they insist on the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435.

Well, now we are back home. Cuba is our second fatherland. We are very happy to be here once again. We look forward to our talks, our negotiations, fruitful as usual, the points that we will discuss to see how we can confront imperialism together. The struggle continues, victory is certain. Many thanks. [end recording]

Addresses South African Acts

FL302014 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1821 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] During a news conference held in Havana this morning, Comrade Sam Nujoma, top leader of the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO), said that the South African criminal actions against Namibia have heightened. Nujoma said that biological warfare is now being used. The SWAPO leader said that the situation in Namibian territory continues to be critical and explosive due to the attacks by South African racist troops. Despite this, the victory of the people is near because of the actions of SWAPO's military branch. Nujoma said that the South African's use of biological warfare, their attacks on civilians, and the destruction of the crops, is the result of their military defeats. Nujoma said that despite the aid they get from the Reagan adminstration and other capitalist countries, Botha's racist regime is faced with the low morale of its troops. During his news conference, held at the Protocol Room at Cubanacan, Nujoma said that the South African racist regime is now working on establishing a puppet government in Namibia. However, Nujoma said, such attempts have failed in the past and they will continue to fail.

Nujoma also spoke of conscription of Namibians who are between 17 and 50 years of age. He said that this is being done to keep them from joining the ranks of SWAPO and to send them to the front lines so that the blacks, and not the whites, will get shot. However, this has not worked because at the first chance they get, the Namibians join the ranks of SWAPO.

Nujoma said that his visit to Brazil, Uruguay, Peru, Colombia, and Nicaragua had been very successful. He said that Cuba, his second homeland, will be the last leg of his trip.

Grants News Conference

FL310131 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Sam Nujoma, president of the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO), has granted a news conference in Havana. Nujoma is in our country, invited officially by the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee, after touring seven Latin American countries. Nujoma told reporters about the results of the tour. The African leader also said that his countrymen, the Namibian people, are convinced about their final victory over colonialism and apartheid. He also conveyed a special greeting to our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro and the entire Cuban people.

[Begin Nujoma recording in English with consecutive Spanish translation] I would like, on behalf of the SWAPO Central Committee and the Namibian people, to extend a salutation and congratulations to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, to the PCC Central Committee, and to the Cuban revolutionary people for their revolutionary actions in support of the people of Angola, thus to the defeat of the combined CIA and South African racist-led group troops in Angola. [as heard] We also want to pay a special tribute to Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, to the Central Committee of the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] for upholding high the torch of freedom, the policy of late President Agostinho Neto, founder of the Angolan nation, who said Angolan independence will be incomplete unless it is linked with the total liberation of the African continent. To you, Cubano Companeros, [preceding two words in Spanish] we thank you for your revolutionary contribution toward the [word indistinct] destruction of the chains of colonialism and imperialism and apartheid in Africa. [words indistinct]

FURTHER ON FIFTH UJC CONGRESS, 1-4 APRIL

FL251556 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] The last organizational step in preparation for the Fifth Congress of the UJC [Union of Young Communists] ended yesterday with the official creation of all provincial delegations to the meeting. At those meetings the main topics were defined and will be taken to the congress based on the suggestions made beginning at the grassroots level and extending through the organizational process.

The Cuban youth have increased their production and planned many recreational, cultural, and sports activities for the days prior to their congress, which will be held in Havana from 1-4 April.

Delegations Arriving

FL301914 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Report by (Belkis Hoblar)]

[Text] Delegations invited to attend the Fifth Congress of the UJC [Union of Young Communists], to be held from 1 April through 4 April, continue to arrive in our country. The delegations from the DPRK, Poland, Uruguay, Argentina, Venezuela, Ecuador, El Salvador, Lebanon, UK, Guatemala, Namibia, Chile, and others, have already arrived. The UJC International Relations Department has announced that on 6 and 7 April there will be a meeting of Latin American and Caribbean youth organizations. This meeting is sponsored by the UJC and the WFDY and is aimed at strengthening the anti-imperialist actions on the continent and heightening the solidarity with the peoples in Central America and the Caribbean who are struggling against the North American imperialist policy.

FAO FOOD PROGRAM OFFICIALS VISIT CAMAGUEY PROVINCE

FL100040 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2135 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] A group of FAO World Food Program experts began a visit in Camaguey Province yesterday to assess the progress made by the Cuban 2702 Project. This responds to a request made by the Cuban Government in using that agency's assistance in a project being conducted in the Jimaguayu dairy basin. (Martin Bitlet), joint FAO representative in Cuba, explained that the experts will hold several meetings with Agriculture Ministry leaders in Camaguey during the course of the week and will then prepare two reports. The first report will be analyzed and discussed with the Cuban Government and the second one will be submitted to the FAO Program Committee.

BRIEFS

OIL REFINERY GOALS -- A series of investment goals are being pursued at the Nico Lopez Oil Refinery, located east of Havana port, in order to achieve more quantity and quality in production. Among these goals are the production of 100,000 tons of turbofuel for jet airplanes and the extraction of 187,000 more tons of diesel fuel from crude petroleum each year. The work is valued at 144 million pesos, equivalent to the same amount in dollars, and is being undertaken with the help of the Soviet Union. [Text] [Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 Mar 87 FL]

CARICOM, EC SIGN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

FL312118 Bridgetown CANA in English 2009 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Kingstown, March 31, CANA -- The Caribbean Community (Caricom) and the European Community (EC) have reached agreement on the allocation of 111.6 million dollars U.S. in funding, according to a St Vincent and the Grenadines Government statement today.

St Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister James Mitchell, his Dominican counterpart Eugenia Charles and Caricom Secretary General Roderick Rainford this month concluded the agreement with EC officials in Brussels, the statement said. No details were given. The memorandum of understanding covers programming for a regional co-operation fund under the Lome Three Agreement, a trade and aid accord between the EC and African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) states. The agreement would allow for disbursement of 72 million European Currency Units (one ECU -- 1.3289 dollars U.S.) under Lome III and 12 million ECUs left over from Lome II for Caricom projects.

The St Vincent and the Grenadines Government Information Service (GIS) statement also said Mitchell had ended a very successful tour of Canada, Europe and Britain. He held discussions in Canada with Canadian Farm Labour officials on the prospect of increasing the country's quota under the Canada-Caribbean farm workers recruitment programme.

Mitchell visited Luxembourg for a meeting with the European Investment Bank on the Bequia Airport project and loans for the St Vincent electricity services to buy additional generation equipment for three of the country's power stations. The bank has been asked to finance development of hotels and invest in a small industries scheme.

In London, the Vincentian leader held talks with Baroness Young, a minister in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Sir John Fieldhouse, chief of the U.K. defence staff. The nature of these talks was not disclosed.

BAHAMAS

NEW SESSION OF THE HOUSE OPENED BY GOVERNOR

FL232225 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Cloudy skies and rain this morning for the opening of the new session of the House. The ceremony still took place this morning though, as House members moved to the Senate chamber for the speech from the throne read by the governor general, His Excellency Sir Gerald Cash.

[Begin recording] Speaker and representatives of the Honorable House of Assembly. My government will continue to make every effort to improve the quality of life of the Bahamian people. A draft order made pursuant to the recommendations of the Constituency Commission and other legislative measures will be put before you, including a bill for an act that provides for the revision of the statute law, a bill to amend the reprsentation of the People's Act of 1969, a bill to promote the conservation and maintenance of the environment, a bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code Act 1968, a bill or an act to amend the Liquor License Act Chapter 291, a bill or an act to regulate the sale, storage, and transportation of liquefied petroleum gas, a bill or an act to validate the designation of certain registrars of marriage and the appointment of certain marriage officers, and a bill or an act providing for the succession of the property of deceased persons, and in particular, the devolution, administration, testamentary disposition, and distribution in [word indistinct] of such property.

Mr President and Honorable Senators; Mr Speaker and representatives of the Honorable House of Assembly, I pray that the blessings of Almighty God may rest upon your councils. [end recording]

The governor general, His Excellency Sir Gerald Cash. It was one of the shortest speeches from the throne on record.

GRENADA

GOVERNMENT AMENDS CONTROVERSIAL BUSINESS TAX

FL301537 Bridgetown CANA in English 2109 GMT 29 Mar 87

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, March 29, CANA -- The Grenada Government has made its first amendment in parliament to a controversial 2 and 1/2 per cent business levy which is opposed by the private sector. The tax, which was introduced in February during the presentation of this year's budget, is to be levied on gross trading receipts.

In introducing the bill on Friday to amend the tax, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Herbert Blaize said the first 100,000, instead of 50,000, dollars in goods and services sold would now be exempt from the tax. The Grenada Chamber of Industry and Commerce (GCIC), which is the leading private sector organisation in the country, is still to react officially to the amendment.

The change in the tax structure came against the backdrop of Blaize's decision to refuse to meet for a second time with a GCIC delegation to look at the tax. Blaize said the private sector, which is calling for the removal of the tax, undertook during the first meeting he had with them on March 3 to look at anomalies and make recommendations to government. Blaize added that the written request from the chamber for a second meeting repeated arguments for a repeal of the levy and as such he felt it would serve no useful purpose to hear those arguments again. He said he would be prepared to meet the private sector delegation again when they prepare a document listing cases of hardship caused by the levy for businesses is that trade only in price controlled items and fuel.

The chamber's president Brian Pitt said although a document would be compiled listing anamolies those companies adversely affected by the business levy are not just those who trade in price controlled items and fuel. He said a number of companies would be worst [as received] off under the new levy and may have to borrow money to pay taxes.

HAITI

VOTERS APPROVE NEW CONSTITUTION 30 MARCH

FL311357 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Prominent political leaders in Haiti say approval of a new Constitution for the island nation has cleared the way for a return to democracy. The Haitian Information Ministry says the people voted nearly 99 percent in favor of a new Constitution yesterday.

Observers agree the election provides a clear mandate for the National Government Council to restore full democratic rule to Haiti.

BOUTERSE ANNOUNCES 25 NOV GENERAL ELECTIONS

FL011146 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Surinamese leader Lieutenant Colonel Desi Bouterse has announced that general elections will be held in Suriname on the 25th of November. This will mark the first time in 10 years that voters will be able to cast ballots for a new parliament.

Two months prior to the elections, a referendum will be held on the draft constitution, which has been approved by the National Assembly in Paramaribo earlier this week.

NEW GOVERNMENT TO BE INSTALLED EARLY APRIL

FL311816 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] The new government of Suriname will be installed in the first week of April. This was disclosed by Government leader Desi Bouterse yesterday when Prime Minister Jules Wijdenbosch put the portfolios of his cabinet at the disposal of the military authority, marking the end of the transition period, which began 27 months ago.

Bouterse hinted that most of the ministers will be included in the new government, which will have an even broader base now that the C-47 trade union federation has again agreed to participate in the top deliberating council, the government, and the National Assembly. The most important task of the new goverment will be making preparations for a referendum for the constitution and general elections.

DRAFT CONSTITUTION COMPLETED, PRESENTED

FL301900 Parmaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] The commission for the formulating of the new constitution completed its work on Friday last and presented in draft to the Prime Minister, Jules Wijdenbosch. Chairman (Eddy Bruma) said he trusts the draft could be used as the basis for a constitution. This first draft contains 180 articles and was formulated after members of the committee [as heard] reached consensus. Today the National Assembly will publicly debate the draft for a new Surinamese constitution. Tomorrow speeches will be made in the National Assembly to mark the end of the transition period and (?demise) of the National Assembly, which also comes to an end tomorrow. The most important job of the National Assembly during the transition period was to formulate a new constitution.

Adopted by National Assembly

FL311843 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Early this morning, the National Assembly adopted a draft constitution. Tonight the assembly will meet again in an extraordinary session because of the end of its mandate today.

The night session will deal with the decree, which will pave the way for the retention of the assembly in office until elections for new people's representatives are held.

During this extended period, the main task of the assembly will be the information campaign on the content of the draft constitution in relation to the referendum, which must be held within 6 months.

Although the draft of the constitution was adopted by the National Assembly, the version produced by the editorial commission was not without its criticism.

According to February 25th Movement assembly member Mr (Jack Maynard), this is not a correct reflection of the political framework, which forms the basis and was adopted by the assembly 3 weeks ago. (Maynard) said last night, significant matters have been left out and in (?some) cases a weaker formulation was used, which he said was much to his regret. He blamed this on the influence of the three traditional political parties, which don't take part in the National Assembly, but do so in the top deliberating council where the draft results were dealt with. (Maynard) concluded that the draft was not only the product of the assembly but also of the top deliberating council. (Maynard) expressed the hope that these principled matters will be included in the final document as a result of discussions, which will be held before the referendum. These discussions will bring approval or adjustments of the constitution.

REBELS REPORTEDLY KILL THREE SOLDIERS

PM301351 Amsterdam DE VOLKSKRANT in Dutch 27 Mar 87 p 1

[ANP dispatch: "Brunswijk Marksmen Reported To Have Killed Three Soldiers"]

[Text] Paramaribo -- On Wednesday [25 March] snipers belonging to Ronnie Brunswijk's Jungle Commando killed three Surinamese soldiers at Brownsweg in the vicinity of the Affobakka Dam, the Suriname News Agency [SNA] reported yesterday. According to SNA the "assassinations" were followed by an exchange of fire in which at least 19 of Brunswijk's men were killed. No government soldiers were reported killed.

The press bureau reported that the soldiers, who were busy carruing out their repair work on the water supply system, were fired on "in a cowardly manner" by "Brunswijk's band of terrorists." During the search that followed, government soldiers encountered a group of rebels and an exchange of fire ensued.

Amsterdam coffee shop owner George Baker has tried unsuccessfully to buy arms in Brazil for Brunswijk's Jungle Commando, according to a report broadcast in the Evangelische Omroepstichting [Evangelical Broadcasting Foundation] program Tijdsein yesterday evening.

SUSPECT ARRESTED IN SHOOTING OF MILITIA MEMBER

FL125184 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] More information has emerged on the shooting Monday night in Paramaribo of one member of the People's Militia. The Suriname News Agency [SNA] reported yesterday that a man, who is known by the police, had waylaid a militia guard at the water tower. He succeeded in disarming the guard and made good his escape. The guard chased the man and shots were fired. The man, however, escaped, but was later arrested by the military police and taken for questioning. It was inadvertently reported in our newscast yesterday that a member of the national Army was also wounded.

C-47 UNION TO CONTINUE TALKS WITH GOVERNMENT

FL301916 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Yesterday, the workers assembly of the C-47 Trade Union Federation mandated its board to continue talks which would lead to the participation of the federation in government, the national assembly, and the top deliberating council. The talks with head of state Bouterse began last week. In a resolution adopted yesterday the C-47 says that it is obligated to the working class to see to it that the agreement surrounding the new democratic structures are being implemented correctly. The federation says it also has the task to see to it that economic measures are not contrary to the workers' interest.

SURALCO-TRADE UNION LABOR TALKS BREAKDOWN

FL301820 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Last Thursday, negotiations for a new collective labor agreement between the bauxite unions and the Suralco management broke down. The two parties had already reached a principle agreement but Suralco withdrew this after consultation with its head office. In a conclusion, the bulletin of C-47 Trade Union Federation said that a negotiating team of Suralco does not have a full mandate. Last Thursday also, a protocol concerning the bottleneck at the Moengo and Paranam operations was expected to be signed, but the head office also disagreed with this. The bulletin commented that Suralco wants to make use of [words indistinct] interests to put pressure on the Surinamese government in order to reach its goals.

THIRD DISTRICT RADIO STATION OPENS LATE MARCH

FL261751 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Text] Last weekend the Third District radio station was opened. The name of the station is (Radio Goskopo Commewijne). Earlier, similar radio stations were set up in the capital, Paramaribo, and in the Saramacca district. This is an initiative of the Ministry of Home Affairs, which wants to open radio stations in every district. The radio stations are aimed at promoting regional development and to enable the people of the district to have their own voice.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO BRAZIL -- Ambassador (Barshy Narendorf) yesterday presented his credentials to Brazilian President Jose Sarney. Both officials had a short discussion on the relations between the two neighboring countries. President Sarney said that Brazil is following the democratization process in Suriname with much interest and is willing to render assistance in economic and other fields. Ambassador (Narendorf) said he will give more content to the already good relations which exist between the two countries. He also pointed to the fact that in spite of problems, the democratization process is being carried out within the fixed timeframe and in the near future it will result in the presentation of the draft constitution to the Surinamese people. [Text] [Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 25 Mar 87 FL]